FBIS DAILY REPORT

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GOVERNMENT MOVES TO BAN ADDITIONAL IMPORTS

PY052319 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 5 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] The Commerce Secretariat ruled yesterday a virtual ban on imports of items such as books, household appliances, musical instruments, photographic and hi-fi equipment and watches. The list of banned imports also includes notebooks, cards, photocopying machines, gardening scissors, pins, needles, sets of sink and bath taps, guns, lenses and mechanical toys.

The move, along with a similar one dated May 3, aims at reducing imports to a minimum to avoid a drainage of foreign currency. The prospective importer of these items will have to submit the usual sworn statement of import needs (DJNI) which the secretariat will analyze in detail, probably over a long period of time and prior to a negative answer.

The system was established on March 3 and originally applied to luxury items such as cigarettes, whisky and perfumes. Now, it will also restrict imports of items which will not be easily replaced by locally manufactured products. The move does not apply to goods which are on their way to Argentina or have already arrived in the country.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS GROMYKO, NONALIGNED GROUP

PY051148 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Argentine Foreign Minister Aguirre Lanari was very busy today. Aguirre Lanari met with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko among other activities. At the end of the meeting, Aguirre Lanari stated that he was optimistic about the support that the USSR could give to Argentina.

Aguirre Lanari also met with the Nonaligned Countries' Coordinating Bureau, where he outlined the Argentine position.

PRC Foreign Minister Huang Hua voiced the PRC's full support for the Argentine draft resolution, which already has the support of 20 Latin American nations.

COMMERCE SECRETARY SATISFIED BY TALKS IN MOSCOW

PY052132 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1551 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Moscow, 5 Oct (LATIN-REUTER) -- Argentine Secretary of Commerce Alberto Fraguio expressed his satisfaction here today over the results of the 2-day talks aimed at bolstering trade relations with the Soviet Union.

Fraguio told reporters in a press conference granted at the end of talks that the Argentine delegation, which includes Energy Secretary Alietto Guadagni, held fruitful talks with officials of the Soviet fish industries and with ministers of the economic sector in addition to directors of several enterprises.

The purpose of the negotiations was to establish the basis for talks at the next meeting of the bilateral commission to be held during the April-May period, he added.

An Argentine source stated yesterday that the talks were basically aimed at explaining the Argentine economic situation and its import and export needs after the problems caused by the war with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands.

The Soviet Union has been the main Argentine trade partner since the partial grain embargo imposed on Moscow by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

USSR TOPS GRAIN BUYERS; EEC ONLY 5 PERCENT

PY052335 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 5 Oct 82 p 11

[Text] During the first eight months of the year, the Soviet Union absorbed nearly 62 percent of Argentina's total grain exports, while the European Economic Community countries barely represented five percent of the total.

According to statistics compiled by the National Grain Board, the total volume of exports between January and August amounted to 24.21 million tons, made up mainly of sorghum (4.46 million tons); maize (4.37 million tons); wheat (3.46 million tons) and soybean (1.68 million tons). These made up 98.2 percent of the total exported.

The Soviet Union, Spain, Japan, Brazil and Italy absorbed 82.6 percent of the total.

The Soviet Union, with purchases amounting to 8.76 million tons during the year, is by far the chief buyer, having absorbed 75 percent of wheat exports, 74 percent of maize exports, and 32 percent of soybean exports.

Second place in grain purchases from Argentina is Spain with 941,000 tons, although this is only one tenth of the Russian purchases. This was 6.6 percent of the country's total exports and mostly sorghum and maize.

Japan came third with 813,000 tons and 5.7 percent of the total, mainly sorghum.

Fourth place was taken by Brazil with 780,000 tons and fifth was Italy with 449,000 tons, made up mainly of maize.

GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZES HOLDING 'MARCH FOR LIFE'

PY052001 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1933 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Oct (DYN) -- According to reliable sources, the government will allow the participants of the so-called "March for Life," organized by eight human rights organizations and earlier prohibited by the Interior Ministry, to reach Plaza de Mayo this afternoon.

When the sources were asked what were the practical differences between an authorized demonstration and a prohibited demonstration, they stated that if it is prohibited and incidents take place it makes the police forces' task much easier.

The march is supposed to start at the corner of Libertad Street and Mayo Avenue and end at the Plaza de Mayo.

Plaza de Mayo Blocked

PY052044 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2017 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Oct (DYN) -- With some 25 members of the mounted police force lined up across Avenida de Mayo, the security forces have blocked access to Plaza de Mayo at the point of Piedras Street.

At approximately 1705, at the same time as this measure was being taken, a large number of patrol cars started to drive towards the place where the meeting will take place on the corner of Lima Street and Avenida de Mayo.

At that same time -- up to which the meeting at that point was developing normally -- brigades carrying tear gas were seen getting out of police personnel carriers.

'March' Causes Traffic Jam

PY052059 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2010 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Oct (DYN) -- Some 300 persons -- a number which continues to increase -- were already at the meeting point, on Lima Street and Avenida de Mayo, to start the "March for Life." The gathering is developing normally and groups of persons continue to arrive. The meeting point is at the fountain located on that corner in front of the Don Quijote monument.

The closing of the entrances to the subway stations between Lima Street and Plaza de Mayo is causing traffic jams because the meeting is scheduled for the same time that rush hour starts.

Ends Peacefully

PY060129 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0039 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Oct (DYN) -- The federal police tonight reported that approximately 3,000 persons participated today in "the March for Life" at the Plaza de Mayo organized by eight human rights groups, and noted that there were neither incidents nor detentions.

A police communique said 800 policemen were involved in an operation designed "to control" the demonstrators who, "disregarding a prohibition of the national government, attempted to converge on Plaza de Mayo."

The communique finally said that the demonstration was "controlled" and the operation ended "at 2030, when the demonstrators completely dispersed." It added that "public order was not disrupted and no detentions were made."

ARMY V CORPS COMMANDER INSTALLED 5 OCTOBER

PY051259 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1234 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 5 Oct (TELAM) -- Army Commander in Chief Lt Gen Cristino Nicolaides installed Brig Gen Rodolfo Enrique Wehner this morning as the new commander of V Corps.

The ceremony, which was of a strictly military nature, was held at 0900 on the main parade ground of the large unit.

GUIRALDES EXPLAINS TELEVISION CENSORSHIP CASE

PY052329 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 5 Oct 82 p 11

[Text] Retired Commodore Juan Jose Guiraldes, brother-in-law of murdered diplomat Elena Holmberg yesterday said that a television programme in which he spoke of the case had been censored by the authorities. "Part of the tape recording was cut," he said.

In a letter to the Air Force commander-in-chief, Brigadier Augusto Hughes, which was made public yesterday, Guiraldes refers to a recording of the "Tiempo Nuevo" programme which was broadcast by ATC [Argentina Television Color] on September 23.

Guiraldes has accused the Air Force secretary general, Brigadier Alberto Simari, of having made suggestions to him as to what he may say or not. "All three of us were closely linked, as I was a brother-in-law of Elena Holmberg, Tomas de Anchorena was her chief, when ambassador to France, and former-Federal Judge Rafael Sarmiento is an old friend and adviser" Guiraldes said, referri [illegible] to the other guests on the show.

He added that none of them had the slightest hesitation in speaking about the case since they believed this was their right in accordance with the guarantees established by the National Constitution.

"This was when we were recording the programme, but when it was subsequently televised I found it had been cut, specially the part where I make references to Elena Holmberg, Hector Hidalgo Sola and Fernando Branca", he said. He then added he was certain this censoring had not been carried out by the producers of the programme.

Guiraldes said friends who know of his close relationship to Elena Holmberg might have been under the impression he had acted in a cowardly manner, evading pertinent references connected with the case.

The day after the television show was aired, Guiraldes called on Hughes who refused to see him, but later he received a communication from Air Force Secretary General Alberto Simari who reportedly informed him of what he could or could not say as a retired air force officer. Guiraldes told Simari the proper channel to give him such instructions was the retired personnel section of the air force.

Guiraldes said anyone who sees the uncensored recording can verify he did not use it to level charges, or furnish proofs.

He added that the family of Elena Holmberg had not made any public outcry as from January 11, 1979, when her body was found, and that they had left matters entirely in the hands of the judicial authorities.

GENERAL LANUSSE SAYS 'MILITARY UNFIT TO GOVERN'

PY052325 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 5 Oct 82 p 11

[Text] Retired Lieutenant-General Alejandro Lanusse yesterday said the armed forces are "not qualified" to run the country, since the education they acquire at military colleges "neither gives them an orientation on political lines of thought, nor does it give a commander-in-chief the power to demand from his subordinates that they stand with his political view points."

Talking to students at the University of Belgrano's law school, the former president and Army commander-in-chief during Ongania's presidency also called on the government to "provide all the information needed" about disappeared people so that "justice can be done in the way it should."

Prompting the youth to "make all the necessary efforts" for a return to democracy, Lanusse reminded "all Argentines" of their "duty to take part in politics." On the other hand, he admitted the full enforcement of the Constitution alone will not solve the country's problems, because "there is no group or institution, no matter how skilled it considers itself let alone a person," that will be "able to come up with solutions" to pull Argentina out of its present state.

Queried by students regarding his own 1971 to 1973 presidency, Lanusse did not deny that the "great national accord" his government had promised was the one thing never achieved. This did not stop him from pleading for "the unity of all Argentines," though, after expressing his hopes that "the armed forces do not come back to power," after the next constitutional government is installed.

Referring to the numerous coups the country has experienced in recent years, Lanusse said "the man in the street" had always been aware of them when they were "about to take place, so it was not the people, but 'us' (the military presidents emerging from those coups) who either did not know how to or did not want to reach an implied on the people's side." [as published]

NATIONAL CONGRESS ELECTS SILES ZUAZO PRESIDENT

PY060045 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Relayed from Congressional Palace by (Daniel Alarcon)]

[Text] Dear friends, ladies and gentlemen: We want to confirm something we had reported previously. Dr Hernan Siles Zuazo was proclaimed at this very moment constitutional president of the republic, upon receiving 113 votes from a total of 146 cast. The voting ended at 2015, and the results are as follows:

Hernan Siles Zuazo with 113 votes; Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez with 29 votes, 4 votes were void.

This is a special report from congress, and now we want to reproduce for you the proclamation of Dr Siles Zuazo by the Honorable Senate President Julio Garret.

[Begin Garret recording] I proclaim the election of Dr Hernan Siles Zuazo as constitutional president of the republic. [shouts] [end recording]

This is the special and final act of the constitutional history of our country when the honorable president of the National Senate Julio Garret Ayllon proclaimed Dr Hernan Siles Zuazo constitutional president of the republic in the year of 1982 for a period of 4 years, according to the provisions of the Constitution. In a few minutes, we will report on the proclamation of the vice president.

CONGRESS ELECTS JAIME PAZ ZAMORA VICE PRESIDENT

PY060155 La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 0015 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Relayed from the Legislative Palace by (Daniel Alarcon)]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: At 2115, Bolivia has a constitutional president and a vice president. They were elected by direct voting at the congressional chamber. The first voting was for the president of the republic. The winner was Dr Hernan Siles Zuazo who received 113 out of 146 votes. His immediate aide Jaime Paz Zamora was elected vice president. He received 118 out of 147 votes. Twenty-five senators and 122 deputies voted. Dr (Nulfo Chavez Ortiz) received three votes. There were 19 blank votes and 14 void.

We must reiterate that Bolivia at this moment has a constitutional president and a vice president for a 4-year period by the will of the National Congress which began deliberations at 1800 on 5 October 1982 with the overwhelming presence of senators and deputies, and the required quorum which was presided over by Senator Julio Garret Aylon.

As for Dr Siles Zuazo, he is a 70-year-old citizen born in La Paz, currently residing in Lima, Peru. He should arrive in La Paz on Friday by 1500.

The vice president, Jaime Paz Zamora, was born in Tarija in 1939. He first studied at the Sucre Sacred Heart school. We also want to say that he is the founder of the Movement for the Revolutionary Left [MIR] and he is not known to have belonged to any other party, according to data that is already circulating in congress. Within a few minutes he will hold a press conference, probably to express his satisfaction over this decision, because a few days ago there were rumors about a reported disagreement between Siles Zuazo and Paz Zamora. But we can see now that the honorable representatives of the different political sectors and parties unanimously elected on the first round of voting, by overwhelming majority, both the president and vice president of the republic.

SENATE, CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES ELECT LEADERS

PY051530 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] The National Congress will begin the election of president of the nation at 1500 this afternoon. The meeting of the congress was called yesterday after the two chambers appointed their leaderships. The lower chamber required more time to do this than the Senate and only at 2133 did Deputy Samuel Gallardo, of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left, MNRI, for Chuquisaca Department take his oath as president of the chamber.

Gallardo received 83 votes, while Simon Barrientos received 19 and Oscar Bonifaz 5. There were 9 void votes and 3 blank. Javier Campero Paz, of the historical National Revolutionary Movement received 75 votes and was elected first vice president, while Gaston Encinas of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR, for Chuquisaca Department obtained 75 votes as second vice president.

The four secretaries of the Chamber of Deputies are now: Willy Vargas, of the Nationalist Democratic Action, ADN; Pablo Steinbach of the National Revolutionary Movement, MNR; Amalia Decker of the MNRI; and Guillermo Richter for the Revolutionary Front of the Left, FRI.

Immediately after taking the oath of office, President Samuel Gallardo said that the country is facing D day and H hour for democracy. Let us hope, he said, that the long and dark nights of misfortune will not befall us again and that mourning, tears and sorrow will be banished once and for all from the Fatherland.

Further on he said that no individual alone can claim to have reinstated democracy. The political parties, the university and civic organizations, the Bolivian Labor Federation, the religious and human rights organizations, the news media, the patriotic associations have all together achieved the reinstatement of democracy. This achievement belongs, in sum, to the invincible and immortal people of Bolivia.

He said that the economic crisis that the people must bear is (?terrible) and that we must double our efforts to come up with feasible solutions that can alleviate the despair into which the Bolivian people have been plunged.

The meeting of the Chamber of Deputies ended at 2140 with the announcement that the Congress must convene at 1500 on 5 October to elect the president of the nation.

Shortly afterwards, Ramiro Velasco Romero of the Popular Movement for National Liberation, MPLN, which is part of the Democratic and Popular Unity, UDP, indicated that Hernan Siles Zuazo will not be elected through political compromise but by the people.

Asked whether the UDP was breaking apart because of certain divisions which seemed to be appearing in its ranks, Velasco indicated that the UDP is not just a member of party acronyms but stands for the unity of the people.

He ruled out any divisions within the coalition but added that those who do not agree with the program proposed by the UDP will detach themselves. He also spoke about the elections of the members of the Executive Board of the Chamber of Deputies, making it clear that the UDP has displeased over a sort of compromise reached with the right, a compromise which could be interpreted as putting the popular and anti-imperialist plan of action of the UDP in jeopardy.

He reaffirmed that the attitude of the UDP will be dictated by the masses and the constituency. He said: In Congress we are not mere formal representatives, we represent the interests of the peoples' historical project. He announced that the UDP will take a strong stand in the Chamber of Deputies, that it will bring Congress out into the streets while it brings the people into Congress.

PRESIDENT OF SENATE TAKES OATH OF OFFICE

PY051918 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Julio Garret Ayllon of the National Revolutionary Movement for Chuquisaca Department was elected president of the Senate yesterday. He received 20 votes while Victor Andrade Uzquiano of the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left, (MNRI] for La Paz Department received 1 vote.

Fernando Baptista Gumucio of the MNRI for Cochabamba and Oscar Zamora Medinacelli of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party for Tarija were elected vice presidents.

Hector Ormachea of the Nationalist Democratic Action for La Paz Department, Alfonso Camacho of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left for Cochabamba Department and Luis Anez of the National Revolutionary Movement for Beni Department were elected secretaries.

There were five blank votes which one of the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP] senators later said were cast by that coalition, indicating that this should be recorded in the act. The chairman of the meeting, Oscar Zamora, answered that the blank votes could not be recorded as belonging to the UDP without violating regulations.

Shortly after taking the oath of office, Senator Julio Garret said that it was now up to the Senate to defend the Constitution and democracy. He promised to make every possible effort to defend the independence of all branches of state. He said: I promise to respect and enforce the regulations. Garret became president of the Senate at 1638 on 4 October 1982. The Vice Presidents took the oath at 1641 and the secretaries at 1648.

REACTIONS TO SLAYING OF NARCOTICS OFFICERS

PY052144 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2015 GMT 5 Oct 82

Excerpt] La Paz, 5 Oct (LATIN-REUTER) -- A public prosecutor today demanded capital punishment for the perpetrators of the massacre of seven officials of the Narcotics Control Office, while contradictory rumors continued circulating on the causes of the massacre. The La Paz prosecutor, Claudio Torrez, asked for capital punishment when ordering the Criminal Investigations Department to begin the inquest immediately.

The seven officials of the Board for the Control of Drug Trafficking were tortured and cut to pieces by some 200 peasants led by drug traffickers in the region of Chulumani according to Col Renan Reque, chief of the organization.

But leaders of peasants and of the education board of Chulumani, almost 100 km east of here, stated last night in La Paz that the massacre was carried out in retaliation for the abuses committed by those officials.

They said that on Friday, officers and agents of the narcotics board detained two peasants and in front of one of them they raped his wife and his 10-year old daughter, thus incurring the wrath of the peasants in the region and provoking the massacre.

Peasants' Unrest Reported

PY051838 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] All officials of the drug trafficking control brigade in the Yapacani region in Bolivia have been taken hostage by the peasants of the area. The action of the peasants was taken as a way of demanding the free marketing of coca leaves. Among those captured by the population is the provincial subprefect, the highest political authority of the region. The peasants took the policeman prisoner when he tried to talk to the rebels.

The Yapacani incident took place only 3 days after the peasants of Chulumani in La Paz Department murdered seven antidrug agents. In a preliminary session of the National Congress, a proposal has been made to investigate alleged outrages committed by anti-drugtrafficking forces.

Massacre Suspects Held

PY060119 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Bolivian Police Commander Gen (Jorge Zamora) hs confirmed that eight persons are under detention at the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Department, and that they were probably involved in the massacre of officials in Chulumani. The police commander said the victims were killed during a mob attack. The general added that the investigation of these events continues.

[Begin (Zamora) recording] As we all know, these officials, because of the nature of their jobs, at times have to act energetically, but by no means did they commit the abuses as charged -- that they raped a mother and her daughter. These charges are false. [end recording]

SAAVEDRA WEISSE ADDRESSES UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PY051826 La Paz Radio Illimani in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Bolivian Foreign Minister Agustin Saavedra Weisse called upon all nations to convey their solidarity with the new constitutional government which will be installed in Bolivia on 10 October. In his speech to the UN General Assembly in New York, Minister Saavedra Weisse discussed internal and foreign matters of interest to the nation. We would like to offer our listeners highlights of his speech as relayed to us directly from New York.

[Begin Saavedra Weisse Recording] Bolivia is one of the nonaligned nations. This is for us a matter of principle because we advocate the end to dogmatic frameworks and hegemonic bonds and also because self-determination and inalienable sovereignty are an appropriate defense against absorptive attempts by the so-called imperialisms.

The nonaligned nations wage [words indistinct] defending the rights of the weak nations amid the cold war which the great powers are waging for supremacy. The suppliers of raw materials bear many sacrifices and their struggle for development has a true spokesman in the Nonaligned movement. This movement supports the claims of many of our peoples, as in the case of Bolivia's claim for restitution of a sovereign sea outlet.

Only a position equidistant between the imperialisms, the [word indistinct] and conditioned compromise can endow a nation with moral authority and weight at the international level, and this is what the nonaligned nations seek.

Mr President, its staunch support for self-determination and sovereignty has led the Bolivian Government, headed by Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon, to implement a policy aimed at returning to the democratic and institutional way of life for our people.

We launched in Bolivia a preelectoral process by calling general elections for April 1983. The consensus achieved among the political parties which were convened by the government without any discrimination whatsoever resulted in the appointment of the National Electoral Court.

We also studied an emergency economic plan aimed at implementating emergency measures to overcome the severe deficit and crisis which the current government had inherited. Once the studies were done, the economic plan was submitted to the political parties and organizations and the military leadership. This means that both a political and an economic dialogue took place.

However, in keeping with the general feelings conveyed by the political parties and labor organizations, who demanded an immediate transition to a democratic system, the Bolivian Government decided to convene the congress elected in 1980, which was not allowed to take over because of a military coup that took place at that time.

We have decided to convene the 1980 Congress so that, in keeping with the provisions of the National Constitution, it will elect the new leaders of the nation who will take over very soon, on 10 October this year, the government of the nation.

For them, for the future leaders of Bolivia, and for the heavy tasks that lie ahead of them, we ask for the solidarity of all nations, especially because of the severe economic crisis which my nation is experiencing, a crisis which the new constitutional government will have to overcome and for which it will require all the cooperation that friendly nations are able to give so that adding it to its own resources, Bolivia will come through. [end recording]

The Bolivian envoy to the United Nations General Assembly also called for more just treatment in the relations between poor and dependent nations and the developed world, and strongly rejected any type of colonialism. Bolivia's landlocked plight of 103 years was given special attention in Minister Saavedra Weisse's speech.

[Begin Saavedra recording] We all know that whenever the rights of the nations are legitimate they never lapse. Thus it is right to demand the restitution of portions of land which have been usurped all over the world.

As to Bolivia's landlocked problem, there is no doubt that the time for us to return to the Pacific Ocean will come; for this our counterparts must exercise good faith and an open predisposition to make amends. We also require favorable actions and support from international organizations, especially since [words indistinct] the support of the majority of the nations of the world for our just cause.

Mr President, [words indistinct] cruel and sinister system that man has used in the past; I mean slavery. However, paradoxically enough, this highly advanced 20th century exhibits other offensive vestiges of antihuman practices: colonialism and racial discrimination.

Twenty-two years ago the UN General Assembly approved its decolonization resolution. Every year that we review its provisions, the assembly approves new resolutions dealing with specific cases. However, we see with dismay the appearance of new kinds of colonialist aggression, perpetrated not only through neglect for those principles and provisions of the UN Charter, but also through open violation of these principles.

Such is the recent case of the Malvinas Islands whose bloody epilogue that reinstated colonialism on the islands should prompt us to reflect seriously.

Bolivia, faithful to its principled stand against any kind of colonialism, has supported Argentina's cause and will continue to support the claims of that fraternal River Plate nation, as we have been doing since 1833; because even at that time Bolivia's president was the first chief of state to protest the usurping of the islands.

Mr President, whatever efforts we may make within this organization to put an end to colonialism under whatever guise and to the subjection of land and men to the tutelage of foreign powers will not be enough. Thus, the day we put an end to the last vestiges of colonialism, humanity will be able to boast of having taken a giant step toward a world of truly free communities, toward the world for which Simon Bolivar -- whose centennial we will commemorate next year -- fought. [end recording]

FORBES BURNHAM: CUBAN AID TO GUYANA ACCEPTABLE

FL012035 Bridgetown CANA in English 2005 GMT 1 Oct 82

[Text] Sao Paulo, Oct 1, CANA-REUTER -- Guyana would accept military aid from any country, including Cuba, in the event of an attack from Venezuela, President Forbes Burnham said today.

"If the Cubans are prepared to help, we would accept Cuban assistance," he told reporters in Sao Paulo, during a six-day official visit to Brazil.

Venezuela lays claim to the Essequibo region, which makes up about two-thirds of Guyana and contains oil and mineral reserves, but has said it wants the dispute settled peacefully.

Mr Burnham, who arrived in Sao Paulo last night, is to meet President Joao Figueiredo next week. He said he would ask for diplomatic support in the dispute, not military backing, though his government was negotiating to buy Brazilian personnel carriers and reconnaissance planes.

Mr Burnham said that despite the Venezuelan Government's stated desire for a peaceful settlement, he was concerned. "There may be circles, or forces, within Venezuela, sufficiently influential to provoke armed intervention."

"We get the impression that the centre doesn't necessarily know what is happening on the perifery and doesn't control those who are operating on the border," Mr Burnham said, accusing Venezuela of regularly violating his country's airspace.

Guyana, a former British colony, has no military agreement with any other country, he said. "As a friendly country and a fellow member of the Non-aligned Movement, we have discussed the border dispute with Cuba... but we have no military commitments nor defence treaties with them," he added.

Guyana is not satisfied with Washington's attitude towards the border dispute and has protested at the sale of sophisticated U.S. weapons to Venezuela, he said. "We think the United States should take a positive position, because she was involved in the original treaty in a number of ways," he said.

Venezuela was represented at the 1899 arbitration which set the current frontier by U.S. lawyers. Caracas subsequently renounced the agreement and has refused to extend a 12-year freeze, which ended last June, of the dispute. Brazil has declined to get involved in the dispute and has good relations with both sides, but it has also made clear it wants a peaceful solution.

Mr Burnham said the Guyanese and Brazilian Governments were discussing the building of a small hydro-electric power plant on their common border, to produce three megawatts.

Discussions are advanced on another project, the building of a road between Brazil's Amazon city of Manaus and the Guyanese Capital Georgetown, he said. "The project is viable and now it's all a question of financing," he added.

PLANNING MINISTER DELFIM NETO VISITS JAPAN

PY051502 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Planning Minister Delfim Neto was received in Tokyo by Japanese Transport Minister Tokusaburo Kosaka with whom he discussed trade questions of interest to Brazil and Japan. Kosaka disclosed that Japan is giving priority to the building of an Asian port, a project which is directly related to the Brazilian program of grain and mineral exports.

The Asian port, to be built in Oita Province south of Tokyo, will have capacity to receive grains produced in the scrubland region of Brazil.

In addition to minerals and components for the equipment of the Tubarao iron and steel plant to make that export project viable, the Brazilian Government intends to expand the railway from Vitoria to Minas Gerais, and the port facilities at (Praia Mole) which is still under construction on the Espirito Santo coast.

Delfim Neto also had a meeting with the president of the (long term credit bank). This meeting discussed increased Japanese financing of agricultural projects in the scrubland area.

The planning minister will travel from Tokyo to the French capital tomorrow; there he will be present for the signing of two financing contracts for Eletrobras [Brazilian Electric Power Companies] in the amount of $140 million. The money from the two contracts will be assigned to the Tucurui hydroelectric project.

On Friday, Delfim Neto will be in London, where he will attend the signing of a loan contract for $10 million for the Xingo hydroelectric plant on the Sao Francisco River.

These contracts had already been negotiated and the conditions remain the same as they were before the financial crisis caused by the Mexican and Argentine breakdowns; an 8-year term of payment and a risk rate of 2.25 percent.

The minister will be politically active in the two capitals with the objective of guaranteeing the necessary funds for the equilibrium of balance of payments of the country for this year and next.

POLICEMAN'S GUNFIRE DISBANDS ELECTORAL RALLY

PY052206 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 5 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] Police Inspector Jose Nilton Pereira yesterday ended with gunfire a PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] rally being held at Junco, a district of the municipality of Vertente. Seven persons were wounded; two of them seriously, namely, Jose Pereira Sobrinho, PMDB candidate for municipal councilman, who was taken to the intensive care unit of the Getulio Vargas hospital in Recife; and a woman who owns the town's hotel was shot in the heart, and was admitted for surgery at the Vertente hospital.

During another rally in Petrolina, Taylor Jose Moura aimed his gun at the dais. He wanted to kill Father Mansueto de Lavor, federal deputy candidate, but the gun was wrested away from him. PMDB candidate for Pernambuco governorship Senator Marcos Freire was present, as were candidate for senator Cid Sampaio, and candidates for the Chamber of Deputies Miguel Arreas and Jarbas Vascocelos.

JOURNALIST IMPRISONED FOR LIBELING QUADROS

PY051718 Paris AFP in Spanish 1535 GMT 2 Oct 82

[Text] Sao Paulo, 2 Oct (AFPO -- A criminal court of Sao Paulo here today condemned journalist Tarso de Castro to 14 months imprisonment for "libeling, slandering and insulting former Brazilian President Janio da Silva Quadros in an article that was published in the newspaper FOLHA DE SAO PAULO."

The suit against the journalist was begun on 2 April 1982, after former President Janio da Silva Quadros learned of Tarso de Castro's article describing an alleged meeting that Quadros held with Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo in which Quadros is depicted as an habitual drunkard.

Judge Sergio Segurado Braz stated in his decision that in describing Janio Quadros' meeting with Figueiredo "as a real event, the journalist libeled, slandered and insulted Janio Quadros because he smeared his reputation by attributing to him the habit of being a drunkard."

Judge Segurado stated that Tarso de Castro's insult is of a very serious nature, since Quadros is renowned for his austere administration and his high level principles.

NAVAL AIR BASE AT TRINDADE ISLAND POSTPONED

PY060202 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Oct 82 p 18

[Excerpt] Because it is no longer a priority for Brazil -- "there is no longer a war in the South Atlantic and there is need to carry out flight protection projects," as an officer but it -- the government has decided to suspend the installation of a naval air base on Trindade Island, and no allotment for its installation has been made in the Air Force and Navy budgets for 1983.

As soon as the Air Force and Navy Ministries officially announced last March their intention to build a naval air base on Trindade, 1,260 kilometers off the coast of Rio de Janeiro, two consortiums submitted their proposals. These proposals, in the words of a general, are now "unhurriedly" being studied by the joint staffs of the Navy and the Air Force.

SOVIET MISSION INTERESTED IN RECLAMATION PROGRAM

PY020124 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 1 Oct 82

[Text] A Soviet trade mission is visiting Brazil and they are interested in looking into the lowland reclamation program. Next Monday the delegation will meet with representatives of that program to listen to lectures and view slides.

Another objective of the mission is to study the possibility of financing that agricultural program and receiving repayment in grains. To that effect the mission will make on site visits to projects under that program to assess its results and the country's potential in terms of irrigation facilities.

AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH FRG FOR NUCLEAR PROGRAM

PY050234 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Paulo Nogueira Batista, president of the Brazilian Nuclear Corporation (Nuclebras), recently arrived from the FRG where he signed an agreement worth $150 million, approximately 31.5 billion cruzeiros, which is linked to the Brazilian nuclear agreement.

According to Paulo Nogueira Batista, this agreement confirms the financial community's interest in the fulfillment of the Brazilian-FRG nuclear agreement.

[Begin Batista recording] This year we have already attracted loans for $300 million and hope to receive another $100 million by the end of the year. The program continues to be implemented at the speed which the government considers adequate regarding the new [word indistinct] of the new financial-economic situation of the countries of the world. It continues to be executed normally with an inflow of resources which is perfectly suitable with the established goals. [end recording]

PREMIER ULLOA VISITS JAPAN; CALLS FOR MORE TRADE

OW051255 Tokyo KYODO in English 1240 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Tokyo Oct 5 KYODO -- Peruvian Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa Elias Tuesday urged here more Japanese businesses to participate in Peru's economic activity.

Ulloa said in an interview held in Tokyo's Imperial Hotel that "Peru has plentiful natural resources and a large population. Still more, it has a large market for foreign investment."

Ulloa admitted that Peru has had serious financial problems, but he said that it has followed a very strict economic policy since the civilian government was set up in 1980, taking over power from the 12-year military government.

Ulloa pointed out that Peru's gross national product (GNP) for fiscal 1981 was up 3 percent over the previous year and in fiscal 1981 had increased 4 percent over 1980 despite the current worldwide economic recession.

Ulloa added that Peru's foreign reserves have been growing and this year's total balance of payments deficits so far amount to only $50 million.

Current public and private debts amount to about $8.9 billion, and Ulloa said, "the increase of World Bank resources is essential for Peru's economic advancement."

He said that he had told Japanese bankers that Peru supports strengthening ties with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in overcoming the economic and financial difficulties of developing countries like Peru.

Concerning the country's political stability, Ulloa said that the present civilian government has been on friendly terms with the armed forces.

He stressed that the military forces have not intervened in political affairs despite the guerrilla activities which have been a cause for worry.

Ulloa said that no date has been yet fixed for the visit of Peruvian President Fernando **Belaunde to Jap**an, but he hoped that it could take place in the early part of 1983.

The Peruvian prime minister is paying a nine-day visit to Japan to attend a meeting of the Japan-Latin America symposium, held September 29-30.

He will leave Wednesday for China for economic talks with that country.

TERRORISTS KILL FOUR POLICEMEN IN MAYOC

PY052139 Paris AFP in Spanish 1522 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Lima, 5 Oct (AF) -- It was reported today in Lima that last night approximately 80 guerrilla members killed four policemen and wounded two others in a violent attack on the town of Mayoc, Huancavelica Department, in the central-southern Andean region of Peru.

Armed with machineguns, rifles and dynamite sticks, the terrorists attacked that town and its police station for a few hours, at the end of which they escaped with 10 police machineguns.

Mayoc is 77 km north of the city of Ayacucho and approximately 80 km south of Huancayo, and it is very possible that the four dead policemen and the two wounded ones will be taken this morning to one of these cities.

It was also lerned that in order to distract the people, late in the afternoon the extremists caused 18 explosions in the city of Huanta, Ayacucho, located 27 km from Mayoc.

"With these new casualties, the number of persons killed by the wave of violence now amounts to 96, 27 of whom are policemen, 27 terrorists and 42 civilians, according to unofficial estimates computed in Lima.

TERRORISTS HIJACK BUS, KILL STUDENT IN AYACUCHO

PY051742 Paris AFP in Spanish 2346 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Text] Lima, 4 Oct (AFP) -- It was learned here tonight that terrorists have killed a student from among a group of three whom they had captured when stopping a bus. The students had been on the bus on an outing in Ayacucho Department, southeast of Lima.

On 30 September, students of the San Martin de Porres school in Tambo (Ayacucho Department) were heading for the wooded region of the Apurimac River, when the bus was hijacked by extremists who detained three boys.

The body of one of the students, a 17-year old secondary student of the fifth grade, was later found with a sign reading: "traitor and thief. PCP (Peruvian Communist Party)." The two others were found with their heads shaved.

8,000 MORE GUATEMALAN REFUGEES REPORTED

FL011213 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0443 GMT 1 Oct 82

[Text] San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas, 30 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- The Christian Committee of Solidarity with the Guatemalan People has reported that 36,000 Guatemalans have sought refuge in Chiapas so far. Committee spokesmen reported that this figure includes the 8,000 Guatemalans who entered the country last week and are now in a forest in Las Margaritas Municipality.

They denied that Mexican peasants are engaged in activities against those who are crossing the border in search of refuge in Mexico.

Support for Guatemalans

PA040302 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Statement by (Carlos Martinez de la Torre), member of the Press Commission of the Mexican Committee of Solidarity With the Guatemalan People, during an interview by Pedro Martinez Pires; date, place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] The Mexican Committee of Solidarity With the Guatemalan People is the result of a unified effort of several political and labor organizations and private citizens to promote the formation of a large, broad and united movement of solidarity with the Guatemalan people's struggle against the military dictatorship supported by U.S. imperialism.

This committee was formed approximately a year ago within the framework of the first waves of thousands of Guatemalan refugees who crossed the border and entered our country in fleeing the terror implemented by the Guatemalan military dictatorship. We alerted the Mexican public about this and, in response to a call issued by Guatemalan organizations, we formed this committee which, as I said, has been working for a year.

Our goal is to have a large movement in which all Mexican sectors -- basically the working and peasant sectors, the Mexican masses -- can give effective solidaristic support to the Guatemalan people's struggle.

We intend to mobilize the greatest possible number of forces to support a struggle of great significance for Mexico. It is a fact that any victory by imperialism along our southern border would have a negative effect on the Mexican people's struggle agains their traditional enemy: U.S. imperialism. In other words, we have more than humanitarian reasons, which are sufficient enough, for this struggle, because we know that defending the Guatemalan people's struggle also means defending the Mexican people in order to prevent the consolidation of this genocidal regime, which has been massacring the Guatemalan people for more than 30 years.

PARTIES, UNIONS ESTABLISH NATIONAL FRONT

FL041302 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2215 GMT 3 Oct 82

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- The so-called National Front for the Defense of Wages and Against the High Cost of Living [Frente Nacional por la Defensa del Salario y Contra la Carestia] was established today in Mexico City during a ceremony presided over by former presidential candidate Rosario Ibarra de Piedra. Ibarra de Piedra said that the front's objectives were to improve living standards, obtain broader political and democratic freedoms and solve peasants' demands.

Ibarra de Piedra, who was named president of the new organization, said that the country's working class needed a single organization for struggle and that the establishment of the front was a demonstration of the awareness that existed in Mexico. She said that the front is comprised of some 100 political, trade union and popular organizations.

Party Lenders' Statements

FL041340 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- The Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) and the Workers' Revolutionary Party (PRT) came out today in favor of a broad alliance of leftwing and democratic groups.

Speaking at the constituent assembly of the National Front for the Defense of Wages and Against the High Cost of Living, party leaders Ivan Garcia (Solcias) (PSUM) and Pedro Penalosa (PRT) agreed that differences among the various leftwing organizations made organizational unity impossible. However, the two leaders agreed that unity of action was possible, especially at a time when the regime's austerity policy is hitting the country's workers and peasants so hard, turning the regime into an instant enemy.

Penalosa noted that the new front might be the first big step in initiating concerted democratic action in the country. We must give impetus to the creation of this people's organization as an instrument of struggle for the workers, peasants and popular classes, he said. He said that concerted action had to be broad and unifying and seek the participation of the country's progressive forces.

The front, Penalosa said, should be class-oriented and democratic, independent from the government; all currents should find expression in it and its broad appeal should be based on the concerted action of trade unions and political and social organizations.

PSUM MEMBERS ARRESTED FOR POSTING PROPAGANDA

FL041538 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2130 GMT 3 Oct 82

[Text] Las Margaritas, Chiapas, 3 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- The Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) today charged that five of its members, including the candidate to the municipal presidency of this town, were arrested by the state public security.

PSUM spokesman in Chiapas Manuel Leon asserted that his militants were arrested when they were posting propaganda for the candidate to the municipal presidency, Alejandro Aguilar Gomez.

He said that his party will protest before state officials of the electoral commission for this aggression. He announced a mobilization for either Monday or Tuesday to demand the release of the detainees.

He noted that when he requested an explanation for the PSUM candidate's arrest, 2d Lt Emilio de Leon Martinez, who made the arrests, merely said that they were arrested for defacing walls.

RAILWAY WORKERS SET 15 OCT STRIKE DEADLINE

FL011116 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0210 GMT 1 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 30 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- The strike set for dawn today at the National Railways of Mexico has been postponed until 15 October, railway workers leader Faustino Calva Zavala reported.

The Tlaxcala senator and former president of the Congress of Labor warned that if an acceptable economic offer is not forthcoming in that interval, the strike is irremediably on. The railway workers union is asking for a 60 percent increase, he said.

STUDENTS, WORKERS MARCH FOR MISSING PERSONS

FL041200 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0324 GMT 3 Oct 82

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- About 1,000 people marched this afternoon from Tlatelolco to the main square to commemorate the 14th anniversary of the 1968 student movement.

The march lasted 1 hour and 20 minutes. Demonstrators from various trade union and political organizations demanded that allegedly missing persons be produced and that democratic freedoms be respected.

The march was led by Rosario Ibarra de Piedra, the coordinator of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, Missing Persons and Exiles. Some of the organizations that took part in the demonstration were the Teachers Central Council of Struggle, the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico and the Workers Revolutionary Party. Student representatives from the National Autonomous University of Mexico, National Politechnic Institute in Chapingo, Metropolitan University, Autonomous University of Guerrero and the Autonomous University of Puebla also took part.

Police closely watched the peaceful passage of the marchers. Only one incident occurred when a group of students from the popular preparatory school tried to paint slogans. They were persuaded not to do so.

A person speaking through a loudspeaker mounted atop a truck recalled some events of the student movement during the march.

Upon reaching the main square, the demonstrators held a rally during which five speakers reiterated their demands.

JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN MEET WITH DE LA MADRID

FL021130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0610 GMT 2 Oct 82

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Japanese businessmen hope that the new Mexican administration will make no abrupt economic changes and will have stable policies in order to facilitate their investments.

A group of Japanese businessmen headed by (Takashi Hisihara), president of Nissan Motors Corporation and leader of the Mexico-Japan economic cooperation committee, met today with Mexico's President-elect Miguel de la Madrid. After the visit, the Japanese business executive said they had visited Miguel de la Madrid to pay their respects and to convey their desire to continue cooperating with the Mexican Government.

He said the crisis confronting the country is being faced by most other countries of the world and could not say at this time whether the situation would affect Japan in the future.

He said Japanese investments [in Mexico] amount to $800 million and have provided loans of approximately $1 billion. He stressed that more than making new investments, they would like to continue with the projects they already have underway here.

Regarding the president-elect's attitude toward the control of currency exchange, he said they had not approached this point with Miguel de la Madrid but that they believed it was a temporary measure.

BRIEFS

PETROLEUM STATISTICS -- State-owned Pemex reported today that Mexico produced an average of 2,676,800 barrels of oil a day from January to September 1982, while the daily average of sales abroad was 1,416,731 barrels. Pemex also reported that production as of 30 September reached 730,766,000 barrels and sales abroad totalled 386,767,000 barrels. Present Pemex prices for sales abroad are $32.50 per barrel of "Istmo" type light crude and $25 per barrel of "Maya" type heavy crude. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2038 GMT 3 Oct 82 PA]

COPPER REFINERY -- New York, 30 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- An important contract was signed here today between Mexicana de Cobre and Japan's Marubeni Corporation to build a copper refinery in Guaymas, Sonora. The refinery will have a 180,000-ton annual capacity. The credit consists of $73 million for the purchase of equipment and $40 million for construction and other expenses. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0259 GMT 1 Oct 82 FL]

PRESIDENT ON TALKS WITH REAGAN, ENDERS, BAKER

PA031202 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 2 Oct 82 pp 17, 20

[Interview by special correspondent Guillermo Antonio Adames with Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella in Washington, D.C. -- no date given; all quotation marks as published]

[Text] Washington -- Ricardo de la Espriella has won the hearts of the leaders of the two major parties, the Republicans and the Democrats; of middle and top-ranking officials (who are advisers in all important decisions); and of the AFL-CIO, an organized labor movement in the United States, after 3 days of intense activity in this country.

All, absolutely all, news correspondents who participated in his news conference and the analysts, from conservatives to centrists and liberals in that North American nation, agreed that the Panamanian head of state permitted U.S. President Ronald Reagan "to make a nearly 180-degree turnabout in his policy toward Panama...and Panama is Latin America."

Nearly 100 journalists, including U.S. journalists and foreign correspondents accredited in Washington, attended the working luncheon at the popular site known as "the National Press Club," at which the young Panamanian president successfully handled himself in answering highly controversial questions.

Historic Meeting With Reagan

Talking to CRITICA about his meeting at the White House with President Ronald Reagan, De La Espriella said: "Our discussion was very cordial. A 30-minute meeting was allowed for by protocol, but it went beyond that by 10 minutes; Reagan was most agreeable in his opinion of the Panamanian people.

I mentioned that he had opposed the new Panama Canal treaties during his campaign and he tried to explain that to me, but I told him: "You don't have to explain, I understand...I have not come to complain about your opposition to the treaties; on the contrary, I have come to express our gratitude that now, as president, you have given your support to the Torrijos-Carter treaties because they are good for both our countries. I ask you to continue to give us that same support and to help us to solve those points that are still in conflict."

According to President de la Espriella, Reagan replied: "It is my wish and intention that our two countries maintain a close, harmonious relationship and that the treaties be properly implemented." Then I told him: "There are some injustices being committed against the Panamanian workers in the canal in terms of the wage system; this does the U.S. image no good."

Reagan told me he was going to promote a solution to the problem.

I Have Not Come To Ask for Anything

On another aspect of the De La Espriella-Reagan meeting, the Panamanian head of state was quite clear in telling CRITICA that during his discussion he stated that "I have not come to the United States to ask for anything."

He talked with members of the State Department, the Department of Commerce and the AID, "and I reiterated that the Panamanian people have never been an enemy to the U.S. people; the Panamanian people are, however, very proud of their nationality, their nationalism and their sovereignty; thus, to the same degree that you afford us the respect we deserve, you will see a friendly people and government."

Reagan thanked me for those words.

My Only Desire Is That the Treaties Be Fulfilled

During the discussion, the Panamanian president said: "We know that you have many problems, and we do not intend to add to them. Our only desire is that the treaties be fulfilled. Reagan was clear in replying: "You will have no problem in that regard. As long as I, Ronald Reagan, am president, those treaties will be fulfilled and we will settle those points of conflict."

Interview With Thomas Enders

Referring to the meeting with "special envoy" Thomas Enders, President de la Espriella explained to us that they had discussed the problems of the Murphy Law, labor issues and the Central American situation.

I told Enders that Panama is a peaceful country; that it does not believe in violence. I also expanded on our process of institutionalization and democratization by which we wish to avoid involving our country in violence. You must do more in the area to consolidate democracy, but we Panamanians respect other peoples' rights.

The Nicaraguan Issue

Enders pointed out that "the issue of Nicaragua was of great concern to the United States." De La Espriella replied that "We Panamanians are also very much concerned about Nicaragua and about the way in which the United States is dealing with the problem...because it cannot be settled by violence or intervention.

In fact, the issue of Nicaragua was not only discussed with Enders, De La Espriella said, mentioning the fact that he also expressed his opinion on nonintervention in his 40-minute talk with President Reagan.

Reagan responded: "I am aware of that."

De La Espriella also told Reagan "that if the Nicaraguans want that kind of government, with which I personally disagree, let them have it. If they intend, however, to export that kind of government to Panama, we Panamanians will defend ourselves against it. By the same token, we will defend our right to self-determination." Reagan agreed with me on that point.

Poor But Dignified

In another context, returning to the meeting with Reagan, De La Espriella noted that in his dealings with the U.S. President, there was a chance that he could give the impression of being a beggar, asking for this or that. That is why I was clear in pointing out that "we are a poor but dignified country."

Thus, if any kind of economic cooperation should develop between the two countries, it would be at the initiative of the North Americans. What we want is justice. That is all. I believe that we have been successful in this sense; that is, in clearly establishing the dignity of the Panamanian people.

Recognition of Panama

We asked President de la Espriella what he felt his greatest source of satisfaction was after completing a busy 3-day schedule. "We have created the image that we are a sober nation and we have been treated accordingly. We fulfilled our commitments. We are a nation open to negotiation and we are avoiding problems of violence. Panama is a peaceful nation determined to institutionalize its democracy.

I believe that they got the message, De La Espriella said. Everywhere we visited and through the people whom we met, we saw interest in our democratization process and in the hope that it would become a reality and thereby avoid future conflicts.

Visit to the Pentagon

The Panamanian president also told us of his visit to the Pentagon.

"Remember, Adames, the Pentagon is really responsible to them for the canal. We held a very intensive working meeting there. We emphasized the problems that are currently affecting us regarding matters related to the canal.

The president also referred to what he described as a "brilliant exposition" by Fernando Manfredo, Jr, on the subject of the widening of the canal and the dredging of its entrances. Manfredo said that if the canal is to be truly functional, then as we say in good Panamanian, "one must get one's feet wet;" that is, it is necessary to work hard and invest a lot of money in the canal, because if the work is to be done without paralyzing the waterway, it will take some 8 years. Therefore, we must start now because they are not going to tell us where we stand, and they are not going to give us a canal in the year 2000 that no one is going to use.

State of Mind at the Pentagon

In reply to our question about the state of mind of the people at the Pentagon, he told us: "They were very cooperative, and they think the canal has great importance, now and in the future, and that the works ought to be carried out.

Dialogue With Baker

Regarding his conversation with Senator Howard Baker, De La Espriella said that although we were celebrating the third anniversary of the treaties' implementation, and although Baker is a senator from the south, which were the states of the union most opposed to the treaties, Baker was a great friend of Torrijos and as such he admired Omar, so I took advantage of this occasion to say hello to Baker and thank him for his support of the treaties. He told me that "he does not regret having supported the Panama treaties, and that he will continue to support Panama as much as possible in seeing that the treaties are complied with. He said that he was pleased over the democratization process in Panama and expressed support for increasing participation by all the people of all social levels and ior giving political parties the opportunity to express themselves."

Howard Baker gave the matter great importance, indicating that Panama could be an example for the region. Baker also said he is in favor of the Panama Canal workers' demands, and that he would exert all his influence to see that this is settled.

Reagan's Visit to Panama

Working from Senator Baker's ideas, and based on the principle that Panama has to play the role of a neutral country, we invited representatives and senators to visit Panama.

We also extended this invitation to President Reagan, in line with the principle that ours is a country open to all trends and all friends, a neutral country that respects others and demands respect while insisting on the right to choose the type of government we want for our country and that nothing be imposed on us.

Reagan Plan for the Caribbean

Further on, President de la Espriella explained that they agreed with the Reagan plan for the Caribbean "even though this plan won't solve the region's most immediate problems. However, in the long run and in the future we will have opportunities."

According to De La Espriella, the peoples need opportunities. We want neither crumbs nor alms. We want to be given the opportunity to develop.

In line with this view, I told President Reagan: "Just as you met with the representatives of the rich countries in Cancun, I am offering you the chance to meet with the poor countries in Panama. The opportunity could be used to understand us.

Let President Reagan come to Panama to see how we are handling the canal better than ever.

Reagan told us that he liked the idea. However, De La Espriella added: "I believe only what I see."

IMF

With regard to the talks held with the IMF representatives, they told President de la Espriella that "we Panamanians must tighten our economic belt, that the economic situation is hard and that credits are more difficult to obtain every day. However, they also said that in the past Panama has fulfilled the programs very well."

With great respect, President de la Espriella told the IMF gentlemen that all this was true, but at the cost of great sacrifices, and that what the bankers think is one thing and what the people must withstand is another.

The Panamanian president said: "The cost in terms of the people's sacrifice has been very high." The IMF representatives also pointed out that we Panamanians were better off than other countries. To which De La Espriella answered: "ONLY A FOOL FINDS COMFORT IN THE ILLS OF THE MANY." [Capitals denote boldface in original]

"We have our problems" and we know that we can't impose conditions on the international organizations. Gentlemen, we must tighten our belt and make certain sacrifices, but we can't deceive the people. We must tell them the truth."

De La Espriella added that the government will have to maintain an austerity policy in order to meet its international commitments.

I made it clear, however, that our foreign debt is being paid with the Panamanian people's sacrifices.

When the IMF representatives congratulated President de la Espriella for his ability to continue making payments on the foreign debt, he told them: "This congratulation does not add to our prestige. It pains us, because we have imposed onerous conditions on the people."

Remembering Omar

Finally, we asked President de la Espriella about the most moving moment of this trip. His answer: "The ceremony at the Pentagon was very impressive. Remembering Torrijos very much, I told myself at that moment: "Well, Ricardo, put your feet on the ground. This is not for you, THIS IS FOR PANAMA." [Capitals denote boldface in original]

I am merely a circumstance, De La Espriella told us finally. A president's term is temporary, and the distinctions accorded to him are really accorded to his people. This is why I feel satisfied, because a distinction has been accorded to the Panamanian people.

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES COUNCIL OF AMERICAS

PA032326 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 3 Oct 82 p 1-F

[Speech by Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella before the Council of the Americas in New York on 29 September 1982]

[Excerpts] Gentlemen: Most of you know a lot about my country, nevertheless, I want to use this opportunity you've given me to tell you a little more about Panama and the region where it is located. Panama is the shortest path between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, almost the middle of the American Continent.

Our privileged geographic position allow us to observe a Latin America, described by some as the backyard of the United States, with abundant natural resources but within the framework of social upheaval. Therefore, in talking about Panama here today, we also want to express our feelings about the reality and fate of our Central American and South American brothers.

Economic Stability

In Panama, we have a long and well consolidated tradition of economic, social and political stability.

This stability was reinforced during the 1970's when important structural reforms were made and, thanks to them, we quickly built up Panama's infrastructure in communications, education and health. We increased the domestic market and were able to obtain a more balanced and just social and territorial distribution of the wealth than that which we had had until then.

Through these social and economic changes, we rectified the main causes of social injustice and discontent. Therefore, the levels of investment and savings as well as the levels of development improved. Naturally, these efforts for development had a cost: the country had to contract a large debt, but these credits and loans were invested well as shown by the results. In fact, we can say that we carried out a revolution with deep structural changes. Our cost was high in dollars but, thank God, there was no bloodshed. This is why we are proud of our achievements.

Democratic Regime

Therefore, this explains the reasons for the existence of a favorable climate for foreign investments, particularly U.S. investments, because of our close relations with the United States. There is a little over $3.2 billion in foreign investments in Panama, 80 percent of which is American.

Ever since the canal treaties and the binational canal administration came into effect, we have been busily working to improve the personnel that operate the canal professionally and technically. Important capital investments have been made for the canal's maintenance as well as its physical and technological improvement. But even more importantly, we have developed a remarkable spirit of cooperation and teamwork among the workers, technicians and leaders of both nationalities in carrying out a mission that is of common interest.

The Canal Pays

It is important to point out that none of this costs the U.S. taxpayer a single cent. The Panama Canal pays all its expenses with the revenue it collects on its own. At the same time, its operation generates important benefits for the Republic of Panama but, above all, for the United States, since most of the ships and the greatest volume of cargo that transit the canal are en route to or from U.S. ports.

As a matter of fact, Panama not only allows communication between the two oceans and between U.S. ports on the two coasts, but it is also the country that has contributed the most to U.S. trade prosperity, allowing it to use Panama's main natural resource, its geographic position. However, the Panamanian people have felt that most U.S. administrations in general have not valued or awarded Panama proper credit for this contribution.

Differences

For example, some differences still exist regarding the fair implementation of the letter and spirit of the treaties that regulate the canal. We wish to talk in a friendly manner to overcome these differences. Currently, the most important differences are the ones occasioned by Law 96-70, dictated by the U.S. Congress, in which certain unnecessary U.S. federal agencies were introduced in Panamanian sovereign territory.

Also, this same law views the canal commission -- the highest administrative organization of the canal -- as an agency of the executive of the United States even though the treaties consider the commission a binational organization.

Another cause of the differences is the wage disparity. The canal was built and is operated by citizens of the two nations, equally competent and with the same rights. These men, as is correct when they do the same jobs, should receive the same wages. However, the Panamanian worker receives lower wages, which also contradicts the letter and spirit of the treaties. Individually, this affects our citizens and is of no benefit to the image of the United States as a progressive and democratic country.

Our country is not exempt from the effects of the recession or the international economic situation. The high cost of oil, machinery and finished products affects us in the same manner that they affect other developing countries. Each day the burden gets heavier and it becomes more difficult for us to continue the development programs which are vital in peacefully solving the great social problems that affect us.

Restrictive Measures

My administration has found itself with the imperative need to impose restrictive measures on public spending and to eliminate investments in order to be able to reduce the fiscal deficit that this world financial crisis imposes on us.

We call your attention to the fact that the export production for the developing countries is not adequately compensated on the U.S. or international market. But the supplies and financing we need for our support and development get more and more expensive. In many developing countries, these problems are getting worse because they are also experiencing internal structural problems. Panama has overcome many of these problems. However, we cannot avoid certain effects of the crisis occurring in other countries of the region from affecting us.

For example, the flow of Central American tourism to Panama has dropped markedly, and several important Latin American countries have decreased their purchases in our free zone.

In Panama there is no political violence, but there is political violence in other countries of the region experiencing structural problems. Therefore, our country has had to develop a foreign policy primarily oriented toward contributing to a peaceful solution of the problems in the neighboring region and toward trying to avoid a worsening of the situation. We try to avoid war situations from emerging in the region and we promote the search for solutions that can be achieved through negotiations between the parties in conflict.

Neutrality

This is why we systematically defend Panama's neutrality principle regarding the controversies in other area countries or among the great powers.

This is also why we are trying to maintain adequate relations with all the other countries of the area even if they have political regimes which are different from ours. We believe that a dialogue and an understanding with each of the other nations is the best method to protect our internal security and stability and thus, the investments and enterprises that are guests in our territory.

Reduction of Tensions

We also think that the United States can and must play a constructive role in the lessening of tensions and conflict in this region. The U.S. investors should influence their leaders so that they help deactivate, through negotiations and dialogue, the warlike situations which threaten to convert the area into a zone of disaster.

The present climate of tensions, with its danger, is just the opposite of what the investors want and the most tragic option that could be offered to the Central American peoples.

Regarding this, the United States can play the most decisive historical role. To its known negotiation capacity, we can also add a powerful will to help change and remedy economic and social infrastructures, which are the main causes for the political conflicts of the area.

Reagan Plan

Panama feels that a good start in this direction is the Caribbean Basin Initiative proposed by President Reagan. We are anxious to join this project, which we view as technically well-conceived. We believe that President Reagan's initiative will have healthy effects in the long run and you, as businessmen, should help your President convince congressmen, workers leaders and voters of the futuristic outlook with which President Reagan has created this plan, which will be beneficial for the United States because to the extent that our countries improve socially, economically and politically, there will be the peace which the U.S. Government and people so desire.

In addition, this historical opportunity opens new possibilities for the U.S. presence in the life of our hemisphere. If the United States were to assume, within its just dimension, the role which corresponds to it in Latin America as a partner in democracy, we would be preventing what we are trying to avoid now.

Social Justice

The people are neither communist nor capitalist by nature. The technological advances applied to communications demonstrate the clear differences between wealth and misery before the eyes of our nations. The ideology of hunger is fertile ground for extremisms, which could be spared our people if we use social justice as the basis for the coexistence of men, giving each one his due.

This is where the United States can play the role the Latin Americans want: We want to be understood as we really are and not as someone wants us to be. We want to be partners with the United States in this great task. We are well disposed to it. We want a partnership based on mutual respect and within the framework of sovereign equality.

Look at Latin America

This is why it is so important for the United States to look at Latin America with the same respect it has for its partners in other latitudes so that dialogue instead of impositions will be the path that will allow us to find answers to strengthen peace in our continent.

Gentlemen, on behalf of the Panamanian people and government, we thank you for granting us the honor of having been received here at the Council of the Americas.

VICE PRESIDENT ADDRESSES UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PA052325 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1926 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Speech by Panamanian Vice President Jorge Illueca before the UN General Assembly -- live]

[Excerpts] Panama is located on the far southern tip of the Central American isthmus and almost in the middle of the so-called Caribbean Basin. Our geography and history have permanently linked us to Central America, the Bolivarian countries and the Antilles. Our geographic function as an interoceanic bridge has put us in touch with practically all the markets and peoples of the world. Since the construction of the canal, this has also determined a special relationship with the United States.

At the same time, Panama is also a country with one of the most stable economic, social and political systems in an area suffering from complex sodial and international problems with dangerous perspectives. My country has the inescapable responsibility of playing a conciliatory role as part of the political effort to overcome the crisis that threatens to turn the region into a disaster zone.

For ethical, political and security reasons, my country cannot be indifferent to the climate of violence and warmongering in the region. The domestic tensions to which must be added the foreign interference and intervention of one ideology or another in support of one or another of the parties in conflict have already produced a militarization of forces and alliances that threaten to generalize the conflict at any time. This would have uncontrollable and bloody consequences that would inevitably involve the whole international community and destroy the region.

Therefore, for the past decade, Panama has been carrying out a regional policy significantly oriented towards contributing to the peaceful solution of the area's problems. We make efforts to avert the continuation in the region of the spiral of domestic confrontations, which are already achieving genocidal proportions, and to avert warlike situations between brother countries.

We have substantially agreed with Mexico and Venezuela in the common interest for the search for solutions that can be achieved through multilateral political negotiations among all the parties in conflict within the area. Because of this, we have also developed the principle, right and duty of maintaining good relations with all the other regional countries without exception, even if they have political regimes different from ours. With the same emphasis, we defend the principle, right and duty of preserving Panama's self-determined neutrality with regard to the forces in conflict within the region and with regard to the superpowers.

We are aware that permanent dialogue and mutual understandings with each of the other nations and forces in an effort to establish detente and harmonious coexistence are the only means for reestablishing the area's security as well as for saving international security and that of our own country.

We want Panama to be a forum and an active communicator or intermediary for establishing agreements of detente, and not one of the parties in conflict. Because of this and as part of one of my country's best diplomatic traditions, we have refused to become part of blocs or pacts which are exclusionary in some way, even though in some cases we do not doubt their good intentions.

Panama's stability is also due to a great extent to the fact that in the past decade a complex process of negotiations was concluded with the United States on the status of the Panama Canal. The treaties that were the result of those negotiations responded to an important part of the Panamanian national demands. In the achievement of this objective, the solidarity of Latin America, the Third World countries and other areas which supported our anticolonialist spirit was of decisive help. Although we did not obtain all that is just, we admit that great progress was made and that the new canal treaties establish much more balanced relations between Panama and the United States.

My country's preeminent rights over the Panama Canal are beyond all doubt since it is a freshwater route fed by Panamanian rivers and such rights are affirmed in my country's exercise of permanent sovereignty over its natural resources and wealth.

Mr President, it is understandable and even inevitable that in an international pact designed to harmonize the interests of two sovereign states -- interests which for this reason can coincide, agree or coordinate but which can never be identical -- there is the possibility that differences of interpretation can appear when it is time to implement the pact. This is what has occurred in this case.

Law 96-70 issued by the U.S. Congress authorizing the U.S. executive to proceed to the application of the treaty in accordance with its provisions has produced differences between the two governments which my country has made known to the international community.

On Friday, 1 October, Panamanian President Richardo de la Espriella and U.S. President Ronald Reagan held a very important working meeting in Washington 5 years after the signing of the Torrijos-Carter treaties and on the third anniversary of the entry into force of the previously mentioned instruments.

The objective of the meeting was to examine the relations between two friendly governments, to promote the complete fulfillment of the 1977 canal treaties, to seek more just economic relations between our peoples and make effective the common purpose of establishing the conditions of harmony, justice and good will that are essential for the efficient and optimum operation of the Panama Canal.

President de la Espriella's visit has created a climate of understanding in U.S. official circles and public opinion for the well-founded objections that the Panamanian Government has raised regarding each of the points upon which some actions and measures of the U.S. officials are not in harmony with the treaties. Therefore, we have justified hopes that the just solution of the pending problems will be achieved, particularly with regard to the elimination of the discriminatory wage scale called the Panama area wage base, which, as a result of the Panamanian president's efforts, could be replaced by a nondiscriminatory general wage scale if, as we hope, the United States cooperates with Panama to achieve this result in the next meeting of the Panama Canal Commission's Board of Directors in Washington in November.

Mr President, I must add that perhaps the most serious concern of my nation in this matter refers to the just understanding of the spirit and objective of the treaty on the permanent neutrality and operation of the Panama Canal. The neutrality of the interoceanic waterway has always been an unrenounceable aspiration of my country. Its security is not based nor can it be based on military considerations. We want the canal to be at all times, in peace and in war, a path of concordance open to all peoples and nations of the world. We have never wanted and, to the extent of our abilities, we will never allow, that the canal be used for warlike purposes or objectives. More than defense, the canal needs security in a world such as the present in which war and the use of force has not stopped despite the United Nations being a means to try to solve international differences and disputes.

The security of the canal mainly rests on the relations of good will, friendship and cooperation among nations. In any case, the defense of the canal must come from within the canal, from the canal and for the canal. We don't accept having forces stationed in the canal area and the arms kept there used for warmongering missions or actions outside Panama's borders. In other words, we don't want our country or the canal built on Panamanian territory to be involved in actions that will affect the neutrality that Panama has declared before the world; we don't want it to be used as a military objective in the uncertainties and risks of war that are foreign to us in reason as well as ends. This is the reason for the neutrality treaty. We have, therefore, invited all the nations of the world to sign the neutrality protocol, and I reiterate this invitation at this time.

Through the years, Panama has insisted on the need to reform the regulations and organizations of the inter-American system. We believe that for the OAS to be efficient, it must function as a wide-ranging and pluralist forum open to dialogue regarding more just economic relations in the American Continent -- as the North-South dialogue -- with the participation of all the Western Hemisphere nations.

Conceived in this manner, the OAS will require, as essential and advantageous, the natural contribution of the United States, and the incorporation of Canada would be good. It would be truly indispensable to incorporate or reincorporate those Central American and Caribbean states that are currently not members and are excluded from the organization.

In the inter-American system there are situations worthy of being calmly analyzed, keeping in mind the interests of the states of the region. Quite frequently this question is asked: Can the OAS function efficiently without the United States? The answer is obviously, no, but with the understanding that the United States as well as the other member states must accept the obligations included in the organization's charter and the other agreements of the inter-American system and comply with them. No doubt, in a well-understood regional system, we should ask ourselves if the OAS, which faces a deep crisis, could function efficiently without the participation of Belize, Canada, Cuba, Guyana and Puerto Rico. The main task of this new institutional idea of the inter-American system would be in the political field: the review of the Central American and Caribbean issue; normalization of relations between Cuba and the United States; eradication of the colonial enclaves in Latin America; the status of the Malvinas Islands and Guantanamo Naval Base; territorial disputes among countries of the region, as well as exploring the possibility of -- in the year in which we celebrate the bicentennial of the liberator Simon Bolivar's birth -- finding a fraternal formula for Bolivia to achieve its legitimate aspiration: a sovereign outlet to the sea.

In the economic field, the inter-American forum must tackle the task of reviewing Latin America's economic relations with the United States in an effort to place them on a fair and equal basis. It should serve as a forum for negotiations within the framework of the North-South relations. There are many problems affecting the region in the areas of trade, basic products, financing, transnational companies, foreign investments and technological cooperation that would offer fertile field for meaningful and dynamic cooperation among the countries of the region.

Mr President, international relations are subject to the caustic dialogue of a cold war The local confrontations are now being projected into broader spheres, and there are legitimate fears that the lack of understanding and communication for the peaceful exchange among the countries in conflict, step by step, may lead us into world war III.

Latin America has cultural peculiarities and common interests of an economic and social nature as well as historic roots that link the Central America, South America, Mexico and the Caribbean countries as a regional group with its own definite character. The community of Latin American nations attributes the highest importance to all its relations with the United States and tries to make these relations evolve in harmony and in a friendly and cordial manner within a spirit of reciprocal cooperation and of respect for territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence as well as the principle of the sovereign equality of nations. When these relations are altered and the way is paved for tension and friction among the Latin American states or among these states and the United States -- as is the case with Cuba and Nicaragua -- the natural concern arises, concern so nobly expressed in the initiative put forth by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo and Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins in search of the path for conciliation, good will and peace.

Latin America is practicing a legitimate action when it tries to strengthen its negotiating capacity inside and outside of this hemisphere with very Latin American mechanisms. Latin America aspires to seek Latin American solutions to the Latin American problems with Latin American criteria while simultaneously applying principles of friendship and cooperation with all the nations of the world in harmony with the UN Charter.

The intentions of the ancient colonial empires do not stop in their anachronic aims of seeking control of maritime routes to the detriment of the peoples and states whose territory near the oceans is considered to have strategic value. In this assembly as well as at the Security Council and other international forums, we have contended that colonialism must be repudiated and eradicated regardless of the state or states practicing it.

Consistent with our anticolonialist position, which is one of the constants of Panama's foreign policy, we reiterate our support for Argentina's claim of sovereignty over the Malvinas. Panama believes that from the historic and legal viewpoint, these islands and the surrounding waters are part of the territory of the Republic of Argentina.

Great Britain's colonialist presence in that area today contradicts clear principles in the UN Charter; principles that, confirmed and developed in many decisions of the UN General Assembly, conform to a coherent body of legal standards which condemn colonialism and expansionism and which the organization's member states have the obligation to respect and comply with.

Honoring these decisions, my government, together with other Latin American countries, has become a signatory of the petition signed by 20 foreign ministers to have the subject of the Malvinas included on the agenda of this UN General Assembly session sc that under the control of the United Nations, following the means of negotiations and based on the principles and standards of international law, the problem that has altered peace and international security at the cost of many lives is given a final solution. This final solution should be based on the restoration of Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands and dependencies, on the prompt withdrawal of the British forces and on the establishment of a document that guarantees the ordained transfer of the British administration to Argentina with due respect for the interests of the workers of the British Falkland Islands Company as well as for the British nationals who reside on the islands.

Mr President, I am going to refer to another topic: The situation in Central America is a permanent cause of concern for my government. The civil war in El Salvador, the violence and terror in control of the countries in the area, endangering people's lives, has its roots in the unjust exploitation of man's efforts, in the infamous economic and social differences and in the longstanding violations of human rights and democratic principles, violations that have eprevailed for decades in that region of the Americas.

The current armed conflict is the extreme and critical phase of the secular and futile struggle of thousands of men and women of all ages who are attempting to establish dignified living standards within the economic, social and political system that each Central American nation chooses for itself, free from foreign pressures and intervention.

As result of the civil war in Central America, peaceful people have had to emigrate, fleeing the attacks of belligerant elements across the borders. At the same time, old conflicts are renewed and cause clashes between the armed forces of countries affected by these movements. There we have the preliminary conditions for the outbreak of a conflict which would not be long in involving the whole region and in providing a pretext for the open intervention of foreign powers. This would lead to an international conflict of great proportions and complexities. This is the reason for the increasing use of rude language by the authorities of some countries of the area, who talk so easily about the possibility of a war between certain countries and who apparently refuse to prevent the terrible suffering that would increase the misfortune already affecting thousands of the region's women, children and elderly.

All of us who have vision and an impartial spirit regarding the sinister possibilities to which we are being led by the language of some area leaders recognize that the announced war would spread disaster among the conflicting countries. They would emerge much worse than they are, more in debt and poorer without having solved the problems they are facing today.

To the misfortune of such heroic peoples, rivalry among the superpowers set on unilaterally assuming world supremacy has projected itself over Central America with the risk of turning into pawns in the course of their game communities struggling for their identification, independence, freedom, justice and bread.

In the same vein, we can say without fear of being mistaken that Central American problems cannot be solved without a dialogue, which Panama has always been willing to promote with the participation of all the countries involved, particularly Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Perhaps Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella was inspired by views similar to the ones I am expressing here when he stressed the urgent need to make use of mechanisms of regional and world conciliation in order to solve the internal and external conflicts that exist in Latin America through negotiations. The Panamanian president also expressed his sympathy and support for the proposal of the Mexican and Venezuelan presidents, Jose Lopez Portillo and Luis Herrera Campins, that those conflicts be solved through negotiations. This proposal is contained in the letters that the presidents addressed to Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua; to Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova, president of Honduras, and to President Ronald Reagan, with the intention of promoting detente and peace in Central America.

I must emphasize here that the Panamanian position on international affairs was clearly defined in the speech which President de la Espriella delivered to the diplomatic corps accredited in Panama on 16 September. I quote him: Faithful to the political tradition that Omar Torrijos began, De La Espriella said, we reaffirmed Panama's condition as a Bolivarian, Latin American, neutral and nonaligned country. We also recognized, he added, the duties resulting from this condition. We confirmed our country's interest in having friendly relations with all the countries of the world on equal terms and with mutual respect. We also confirmed our disposition to constantly contribute to detente and the peaceful solution of conflicts, especially in the geographic region of which we are a part, President de la Espriella said.

We advocate, De La Espriella said, the principle of the sovereign equality of states, and we will continue to be linked to the collective objectives of the Latin American and Third World countries in an effort to obtain a new economic and political international order based on the sovereignty of states and the permanent sovereignty of each nation over its natural resources. In Panama's opinion, this embraces the right of self-determination, which means each country has the right to choose the political regime it considers in line with its interests and will; each country has the right to do so free of foreign intervention. Therefore, the Panamanian president said, we will continue supporting the efforts of countries against colonialism and for independence and integrity, rejecting all forms of intervention and threats of force against other countries, especially of the area that surrounds us. Faithful to our commitment to Latin America and to our Bolivarian spirit, De La Espriella concluded, we also reiterate Panama's willingness, as the historical site of the Amphictyonic Congress, to be a forum for promoting the peaceful solution of the problems in our region.

Mr President, the independence of Puerto Rico is one of the delayed tasks of the liberating revolution of the Latin American nations.

Cuba was not liberated until 80 years after the battle of Ayacucho. However, Puerto Rico, as a bitter historical counterpart, was freed from Spanish domination only to fall under U.S. domination. We must make it possible for the Puerto Rican people to decide by their own free will, free of pressures from intermediaries of any origin and color, the issue of their nationality as well as the character and structure of their political organization.[1] The Puerto Rican issue has historical roots.

The fact that it has not been included on the agenda of this session does not necessarily mean that the problem does not exist. It would be naive to think that the votes issued here by the states carry the seal of approval of Latin American public opinion. The debate at the assembly and in the plenary session is a warning to the administrative power that the vote of confidence cast by a number of countries is not in perpetuity.

It is evident that a period of peace has been opened for a dialogue and for the search for permanent and positive solutions that will not harm the political and cultural personality of the Puerto Rican nation.

The Latin American people have affection for the Puerto Rican people, recognize their right to self-determination and give them option to be a part of the Latin American community on an equal footing with the other countries of the Western Hemisphere.

I believe that the time is right to recall that following the 1978 meeting of nonaligned foreign ministers in Belgrade, the Torrijos government defined some of the basic principles of its foreign policy, which were reiterated at subsequent nonaligned summits and which continue to be valid in 1982. I shall repeat these principles:

The Panamanian Government's foreign policy is mainly based on the rejection of the presence of foreign military troops in any country or nation of the world. The Panamanian Government does not justify or excuse any Eastern or Western action obstructing the peoples' rights to self-determination. The Panamanian Government upholds the principle of nonintervention in internal matters of a country and respects the territorial integrity and sovereignty of nations. Panama recognizes that the historic essential commitment of the Latin American Continent is to unite for economic and social liberation; to better itself scientifically and technologically, and thereby to speed up its integration.

Panama promotes the idea of Latin American nationalism based on solidarity and the recognition of a pluralist reality. Panama reaffirms its position in support of strengthening Latin American nationalism that the current international situation demands, stating the problems of the region and seeking solutions without intervention. The Panamanian Government promotes joint actions to promote its interests, actions that prevent foreign policies and measures that could undermine the personality of our peoples and keep the sovereignty of our states from prospering in Latin America.

Panama devotes special attention to its relations with the sister republics of Costa Rica and Colombia as bordering countries. It recognizes the need to coordinate efforts to achieve the development and the harmonious and balanced use of its border regions.

Panama promotes respect for human rights above any political and ideological interests. As signatory of the Ayacucho Declaration, Panama promotes absolute respect for the Tlaltelolco Treaty. Panama will definitely cooperate in the banning of nuclear weapons in Latin America and in limiting conventional weapons in the Latin American countries without affecting their capacity to protect their territorial integrity and to defend themselves from continental or extracontinental colonialist aggression.

Panama views the efforts directed at the normalization of relations between the United States and Cuba as healthy. It reiterates its position in favor of the lifting of the embargo on Cuba and its solidarity with that country so that it will get back the Guantanamo Naval Base.

Panama believes that it would be healthy for the good offices of regional countries to contribute to bringing the relations of Grenada and Nicaragua with the United States to a level of good understanding, cooperation and good neighborliness.

In 1978, when I participated in the general debate of the 10th special session dedicated to disarmament, I said: The United Nations Organization, born at the end of World War II as a system of cooperation and not of confrontation, has been unable to successfully implement the mechanisms of the Charter of San Francisco for the maintenance of international peace and security.

I pointed out that this is shown by the tragic conflicts between the Arab nations and Israel in the Middle East; the Calvary of the Palestinian nation, whose inalienable rights have been violated; the infamous aggression and the indescribable suffering which the Lebanese people have experienced; the tragic occupation of Cyprus through the illegal action of the Turkish Army; the condemnable subjugation of Namibia by the racist regime of Pretoria; the abominable imposition of apartheid to the detriment of the great native majority of South Africa; the bloody conflicts between brother nations of Asia and Africa, and the condemnable colonialist enclaves which still exist as disgraceful stains on the map of Latin America.

Without trying to decipher the inscrutable esoteric enigmas of the political crossword puzzle of the United Nations, Panama's task, in the 6 years of the past decade during which it has been part of the Security Council, has been to try to defrost that UN body so that it will fulfill the sacred duties imposed on it by the Charter.

On beginning our work, we find ourselves in a situation similar to the one that preceded World War II, which occurred due to the failure of the League of Nations. The obvious reason for the League's failure was the negative attitude of the big powers as shown by their refusal to apply the enforcement procedures established in the pact, thus removing the League's effectiveness and condemning it not only to discredit, but to extinction.

The irresolutions, restatements and discussions of the critical situations that demanded corrective or farsighted actions to face the conflicts, tensions and confrontations among the member states; the contemptuous noncompliance with the decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council by big, medium and small member states; the superpowers' persistence in the manufacture and storage of nuclear arms and conventional weapons of indiscriminate effects, including chemical and bacteriological weapons; their indifference to the measures adopted in the General Assembly's special meetings on disarmament and many other such situations produce today, as in previous years, consternation and frustration among the peoples of the universe.

Year after year, we representatives of the small and medium-sized countries, which form the great majority of this organization, have been repeating our denunciations, confirming our aspirations and voting in favor of solutions which have not only been fair, but obvious, clear and feasible. We have done all this without producing any change in the conduct of the organization. The same abuses of rights, the same deplorable conditions of the hundreds of millions of souls who demand bread, justice and peace, have been pointed out and debated, to become inert words on the thousands of printed pages in the organization's files.

Mr President, all of this is the background for the voice of alarm and the cry of urgency expressed in the opinions voiced by the secretary general. The truth must be repeated and we must do so even if we begin to think that whatever is said is just empty words. Nevertheless, one cannot resign oneself to accepting the view that the evident deterioration of the world organization can at the most be slowed but not remedied.

In fulfillment of my official commitments, I have frequently traveled through Third World countries. As a result, I am sure that the incredulity and distrust that the peoples have regarding the United Nations does not cause reactions in repudiation of the world organization in them, but rather the determination to recharge it with energies to solve humankind's vital problems by using the numerous existing resources.

The small and medium-sized nations and peoples have not abandoned the aspirations and ideals forged as a result of the fire and horror of World War II and which are expressed in the UN Charter. The have not desisted in their desire for a just and firm peace. They have not silenced their demand for collective and personal security. They have not resigned themselves to oppression nor have they lost faith in the law.

I definitely believe that their firmness and perseverance will sweep away the tangle of interests which hinder the action of the United Nations and which block the realization of the two tasks that the Charter has outlined for the purpose of guaranteeing peace, consolidating security and establishing the new international economic order.

We small and medium-sized countries lack the physical means to give validity to a more stable collective security system. However, we can raise our voices at international forums as we do in this General Assembly to join in a unanimous chorus demanding that the big powers pause in their rivalries and confrontations and place their resources and potentials at the service of the United Natons so that the secretary general's proposal for a summit meeting of the Security Council to undertake an in-depth analysis of the burning problems which affect the international community will become a reality.

We have a commitment to make the United Nations a dignified organization, returning to the spirit that guided its creation and to having it devote itself to the tasks which, in an hour of lucidness, the powers which had suffered the human and property devastation of the Nazi-fascist aggression that caused Wrold War II had agreed to carry out.

With enough imagination and determination, we can join forces to fulfill the sacred promise made to the human race in the Charter of San Francisco, the promise to protect present and future generations from the scourge of war and self-destruction.

Mr President, there is still time to heed the nonaligned call issued in New Delhi to turn over a new page in the history of humankind, a page characterized by the awareness of our common destiny and the solidarity of all peoples. Thank you very much.

OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO LEAVE FOR CUBA 6 OCTOBER

PA060031 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] With the idea of continuing the talks that were begun in Panama on the Central American situation and the relations between Panama and Cuba, an official Panamanian delegation will leave for Havana tomorrow. The delegation will represent President Ricadro de la Espriella's government and Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, commander in chief of the National Guard. It includes General Staff members Col Roberto Diaz Herrera and Col Marcos Justines as well as Romulo Escobar Bethancourt.

The high-level national delegation will meet with Cuban President Fidel Castro and government advisers.

The talks will be based on the need to seek political negotiated solutions that will serve to pacify the area, reduce the increasing tensions and stop the continuous shedding of civilian and military blood in brother countries, thereby guaranteeing the social peace and security of Panama.

BRIEFS

GOVERNOR ASSUMES OFFICE -- Isaac Melamed has taken office as governor of Veraguas Province. Government Minister Justo Fidel Palacio was present at the ceremony. [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 3 Oct 82 PA]

TRANS-ISTHMIAN OIL SHIPMENT -- The oil tanker "Petersburgo" sailed yesterday from Chiriqui Grande Bay on Panama's Atlantic Coast with the first shipment of Alaskan oil carried from the Pacific to the Atlantic through the 130-km oil pipeline recently completed in Panama. [Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 4 Oct 82 pp 1-A, 8-A PA]

MONGE OPENS FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

PA051155 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Excerpt of speech by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge at the opening of Central American and Caribbean foreign ministers meeting on 4 October in the Cariari Hotel in San Jose, Costa Rica -- recorded]

[Text] This meeting is a sign that democracy is taking the initiative. Democracy is no longer going to be at the rear of the plans and strategies of its adversaries. Enough of watching disconcerted at the harmful effects on an economic and financial system [words indistinct] due to a tragic lack of feeling and disastrous nearsightedness of totalitarian forces of all trends, especially the Marxist-Leninist trend, which abhors the democratic system because democracy is its main and most convincing rebuttal. Democracy is also the most formidable adversary of Marxist-Leninist determination to undermine and destroy democratic institutions.

It is not our intention to exhaust the arguments regarding democracy and the economic and political threats that we must face in this unstable and complex period. Instead, we are trying to exchange views, ideas and experiences such as those I have mentioned for our mutual benefit. The countries represented here have rich and varied experiences.

We are also trying to join efforts to promote a democracy in which we believe, with determination and renewed imagination and with fondness for the distinctive aspects of our societies, but not a democracy with a complex institutional bureacracy lacking in ethical contents and superior objectives. We want a genuine democracy whose main objective is to reaffirm man's dignity by means that are constantly updated and renewed, thanks to the full participation of citizens in the discussion of important problems and in making the great political decisions.

Further Statements

PA051429 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1805 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Excerpt of Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge's opening speech at foreign ministers conference in San Jose on 4 October -- recorded]

[Text] Costa Rica is a peaceful, unarmed country that wants to live harmoniously with its neighbors and all other countries. Its traditions inhibit it from participating in any conflict that might further disturb our distressed area. They also inhibit it from being involved in activities that run contrary to the political stability of other nations. We Costa Ricans respect the principles of noninterference in other states' domestic affairs and of the right of peoples to self-determination. However, we neither can nor want to stop expressing our solidarity with those who, either from inside or outside the governments, are resolutely, determinedly and courageously intent on building democratic societies, even amidst the harshest adversities. After all, our day and age is marked by interdependence and it is dangerous to conceive isolation as a dissuading factor freeing us from the ills caused by the radical sectors among the totalitarian forces. Furthermore, those very forces want to encourage the establishment of an apparatus with international ramifications in order to defame the democratic governments which are not prepared to effectively counteract this offensive. At least they are not prepared yet. They seem to be asleep. This is why it is with great interest that I leave you with the following thought: how can we disseminate the reality of democratic development while strictly abiding by the truth in a way that points to the [word indistinct] of the totalitarian states' maneuver to confuse our peoples and even introduce distrust and discord among democratic allies?

Results of Conference

PA052010 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] As the final result of their deliberations, the participants in the meeting of foreign ministers of Central American and Caribbean countries agreed on the following points after discussing the initial proposals and drafts prepared for their discussion:

They expressed their conviction that the defense, promotion and development of the democratic and representative system are unavoidable tasks for governments that are legitimately elected by the people's will, as expressed at the polls.

The foreign ministers, who met at the Cariari Hotel, recognized that it is both necessary and advisable to create organizations that help to maintain and improve democratic institutions. They also reaffirmed the fundamental importance of respect for the right to sign international treaties based on national cooperation and security.

They said that the preservation of peace and democratic institutions requires respect for the fundamental values of human dignity, which emanate from the supreme being.

The ministers stressed that the prevention and solution of conflicts among states must be accomplished by peaceful means. The foreign ministers reviewed the current world economic crisis, which has led to an exaggerated foreign debt, the deterioration of the international financial system and a growing imbalance in the terms of trade among states.

They expressed their commitment to the principles of representative, pluralist and participational democracy which, thus understood, constitute a way of living, thinking and acting.

The document calls for respect for human rights, especially the right to life and to personal integrity. It also calls for respect for the fundamental freedoms, including freedom of thought, expression, civic association and of unions, religion and the freedom of political participation.

The document was signed by Dr Rodrigo Lloredo for Colombia; George Price for Belize; Dr Neville Gallimore for Jamaica; Thomas Enders, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, for the United States, Dr Ernesto Perez, special envoy from the president of Panama; Dr Edgardo Paz Barnica for Honduras; Fernando Volio Jimenez for Costa Rica; and Ambassador (Jose Marcos Iglesias) for the Dominican Republic.

Volio's Comments

PA052139 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Just as expected, the foreign ministers' meeting held here in the Cariari Hotel was quite an event, Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez commented this morning as he was seeing off several of his counterparts who were returning to their countries at Juan Santamaria International Airport. The foreign minister said:

[Begin recording] All the participants in yesterday's conference did what President Monge wanted: increase the number of democratic allies joining the offensive to promote democracy, its values and institutions as well as to carry out specific, well-organized tasks to bring peace to Central America, peace based on actions rather than mere words. The document that we signed very realistically places those countries here in Central America and in other parts of the world that want peace in a very active and dynamic position to undertake the task of achieving peace.

I am particularly pleased because in addition to the postulates, principles and objectives set forth in the basic document, the conference has created two very important bodies.

One of them is a forum for peace and democracy, which will seek to increase the number of countries dedicated to promoting peace and democracy. The forum will also examine the various peace proposals and initiatives, including the most recent one submitted by Mexico and Venezuela. We have been proclaiming this since 8 May, when Luis Alberto Monge became president. We managed to have this idea grow and made it bear fruit at this meeting. The peace forum is dynamic. I have been charged with transmitting to all the democratic countries of Latin America and to all countries in general the purposes of this forum in order to hear their views. In this manner, the forum, which is neither an institution nor an organization, but merely a dynamic group of opinions, can achieve its objective of peace.

The emphasis of this conference was placed on peace; peace based on the principles and mechanisms of democracy. Naturally, in this manner we are defending the system in which we Costa Ricans believe.

I must thank all the attending foreign ministers for their presence. They made extremely valuable contributions, and we demonstrated that the democracies must be on the offensive rather than waiting for the strategies and practices of the totalitarianisms of both right and left. [end recording]

EL SALVADOR

PAPER ON NEED FOR CONTINUED U.S. AID TO AREA

PA051635 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 4 Oct 82 p 13

[Editorial: "Gen Wallace Nutting's Alarming Statement"]

[Text] Gen Wallace Nutting, commander in chief of the U.S. Southern Command forces, has asserted that it would be very difficult to win the war in El Salvador as long as the guerrillas continue to systematically destroy the economy. He added: "If the guerrillas realize that we are ready to help El Salvador to the very end, that we are willing to provide whatever aid is necessary -- military, economic and political -- they will end by surrendering."

"However, I think that we (the United States) have not yet made a clear enough commitment that will convince the insurgents that we shall not abandon El Salvador at the 11th hour...we are not acting with complete seriousness...."

Nutting's observations reflect the truth: One cannot ignore the fact that until the Castro-Sandinist insurgents perceive a firm attitude on the part of the United States, they will continue to attack El Salvador in the knowledge that time is on their side. No country's army can win if its economic base collapses, since it is impossible for a bankrupt country to finance the huge effort that modern conflicts represent.

In addition, the current insistence on promoting "negotiations" between our country and the terrorist movements can be interpreted -- this is in fact what has been happening since Assistant Secretary Enders delivered his speech on 30 August -- as a desire to bring pacification to the area, even if this means turning it over to the Cuban-Sandinist sphere of influence. Especially in the wake of the Salvadoran people's mass rejection of the guerrillas on 28 March, it is senseless to force an "understanding" with the guerrillas, particularly when it is common knowledge that any agreement reached would be of very short duration, as was the case in Nicaragua.

Nutting is also right in his implicit recognition of the fact that war is not really being waged against our small country, but against the United States and the Western World. The Central American governments' firmness and determination in resisting cannot be maintained without Washington's real and effective support. However, this support is now at stake and may disappear at any moment. One need not be too imaginative to know what would happen to the isthmus if President Reagan loses the 1984 election and an individual like Ted Kennedy assumes power.

VENCEREMOS RADIO ANNOUNCES NEW FM FREQUENCY

PA051405 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Attention, attention: At 2030 on Thursday, we will transmit for San Salvador and the country's central zone on 97 MHZ FM. Beginning at 2030 on Thursday, Radio Venceremos on FM. We remind our listerners that in addition to our two shortwave frequencies, we will be transmitting on 97 MHZ FM every Thursday, Sunday and Tuesday.

NICARAGUA

FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING CONSIDERED AGGRESSION

PA051247 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, said that the foreign ministers meeting held today in Costa Rica, which was attended by Thomas Enders, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, is another step in the imperialist aggression against Nicaragua. He said the following:

[Begin recording in progress] ...it was another step in imperialism's acts of international aggression against Nicaragua. There is no reason to exclude our country from a meeting where the area's problems are to be discussed. This is part of the imperialist conspiracy against Nicaragua. [end recording]

Cordova Rivas added that today's meeting in Costa Rica will not bring about any kind of detente in the Central American area. The junta member also explained that the United States is seeking to destroy the Sandinist revolution and that it has repeatedly refused to sit at a negotiating table with Nicaragua to seek peace.

ECONOMY MINISTERS TO MEET IN MANAGUA 13-15 OCT

PA052310 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] In a press conference, Orlando Solorzano, director for economic integration, has announced that a meeting of Central American economy ministers will be held in Managua on 13-15 October. In addition to the economy ministers from the area, the Panamanian minister of economy will attend as a special guest in view of the fact that the Central American countries maintain bilateral relations with that nation.

Solorzano stressed the importance of this meeting because Nicaragua has become a purchasing country. In this meeting, they will analyze the trade and payment regulations. Referring to the barter system, Solorzano said this benefits our countries because foreign exchange is saved. The barter system allows the export of products of little domestic market value. The director for economic integration said that several national industries have been saved this way. He said that 16 million cordobas worth of products have been exchanged.

FSLN, OPPOSITION REACH POINTS OF CONCURRENCE

PA052001 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Sep 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] It was learned today that the FSLN and the Democratic Coordinating Board have agree on a proposal on various points of concurrence in connection with the drafting of an electoral law, the resumption of the law on political parties and the resumption of discussions about a law on the media.

These points of concurrence reportedly fall within the framework of the demands presented by the Democratic Coordinating Board, which represents the Social Christian Party [PSC], the Constitutionalist Liberal Party, the Social Democratic Party, the Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions and the Nicaraguan Workers Federation.

Following the resumption of talks between the Sandinist Front and the political parties in September, the FSLN proposed the points of concurrence that the Democratic Coordinating Board is currently reviewing. These points of concurrence are also endorsed by the Independent Liberal Party, the People's Social Christian Party and the Nicaraguan Socialist Party [PSN], which together with the Sandinist Front comprise the Patriotic Front of the Revolution (FPR).

The three FPR organizations joined the talks recently and, alongside the FSLN, will respond to the Democratic Coordinating Board's demands, PSN member Dr Gustavo Tablada, a delegate to the talks, has announced.

The Democratic Coordinating Board made several proposals to the FSLN on 13 September on implementing the country's democratization. Talks in connection with these proposals are now underway with the FPR.

The Democratic Coordinating Board has proposed a number of political commitments that it regards as minimal to the FPR. These include the fulfillment of the National Reconstruction Government program announced both nationally and internationally on 19 July 1979 in the wake of the revolution. Among other things, the Democratic Coordinating Board is demanding the reestablishment this year of the right to strike and of the freedom to unionize and to sign collective contracts as established in ILO agreements Nos 87 and 98, which Nicaragua ratified.

The democratic political parties have proposed that the discussions should also deal with a reprieve and amnesty for all political prisoners. Five PSC members are currently in prison: Noel Soza, Francisco Rodriguez Guevara, Julio Ramon Montes, Feliciano Polanco and Cesar Flores.

The Democratic Coordinating Board has also proposed that the national elections for members of parliament and the executive branch be advanced to 1984 and that groups representing all political persuasions be allowed to participate so as to create the necessary conditions for their freedom.

The democratic political parties are demanding the establishment of newscasts on at least seven of the country's radios. They also want censorship of the newspaper LA PRENSA lifted. The Coordinating Board is also proposing to the FPR that one of the television channels be left in the hands of the state while the other is placed in the hands of a pluralist administration. The Coordinating Board is demanding that newscasts and Sunday mass again be aired on the two existing television channels.

A proposal has been made that an electoral law be drafted for promulgation in December. In order to guarantee a pluralist regime to the people, the Democratic Coordinating Board is proposing the free discussion of a bill on political parties that would be promulgated in November 1982.

Within the framework of the efforts to democratize the country, the Democratic Coordinating Board promises to participate alongside the FPR in delegations at the highest-level in order to give its entire support internationally to the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. They also pledged to work within the OAS to obtain financial assistance as well as guarantees against foreign intervention.

The proposals also call for the resumption of the freedom of political organization and mobilization beginning in November 1982.

The Democratic Coordinating Board feels that the proposals are the basis of fundamental goals like the defense of the Nicaraguan people's freedom, the guarantee of their self-determination, the protection of the homeland against foreign aggression, the guarantee of a peaceful future, the removal of the danger of military conflicts and war and the strengthening of the country's process of democratization.

According to the political parties represented in these talks by PSC President Adan Fletes, the Democratic Conservative Party would be included in the missions that would go abroad.

SAN JOSE FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE CRITICIZED

FL051523 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1144 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Commentary by Fernandez Vilela from PRENSA LATINA]

[Excerpt] The only meeting of a foreign ministers' conference of several Central American and Caribbean countries was held in San Jose, Costa Rica, yesterday. This conference was held for the sole purpose of analyzing the situation in the region. It was attended by the United States, represented by Thomas Enders, assistant secretary for inter-American affairs, and the foreign ministers of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Belize, Jamaica and Colombia. The secretary of Democratic Revolutionary Party of Panama and the ambassador of the Dominican Republic in Costa Rice were also present.

Nicaragua was not invited to this conference, although it is part of the geographical area, because, according to some analysis, this conference is clearly an attempt to further isolate the Nicaraguan revolution.

A communique published after the conference last night determined, among other things, the establishment of a so-called forum for peace and democracy in the region and a mechanism for electoral advice for the countries which request or require it. According to Costa Rica Foreign Minister Fernando Volio -- it was the Costa Rican government which proposed the final declaration and no one opposed it -- the forum has the objective of implementing the different peace proposals made in the region.

At the same time the countries participating in the conference, including the United States, called for a struggle against an arms buildup and limiting the number of advisers and all military equipment in the region.

Naturally, this is an act of outright hypocrisy by the Reagan administration because everyone clearly knows that the United States is the principal arms supplier in the region. It also has the largest number of military advisers in the countries of the region.

However, this is not the full extent of the cynicism of the Ronald Reagan administration. In the declaration, where the participants felt obliged to recognize the difficult international economic and social situation of the area, the United States also conceded and said it agreed that it was true that the cause, for the problems in the region were in fact (?linked) to economic and social problems among other things. This is unprecedented because the United States is precisely the cause, as an imperialist power, of the grave economic, political and social situation in the region, precisely due to its unjust international policy.

Other proposals made include regional inspections, which appears to be a mechanism to facilitate aggression against Nicaragua or other progressive countries in the area.

The importance of all this is that this conference is another forum promoted by the United States as an alternative to the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty and the OAS, mechanisms which have fallen into disrepute.

CSSR'S INDRA CITES SOLIDARITY WITH REVOLUTION

FL051810 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Alois Indra, chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly, has held a news conference in the Protocol Room of Cubanacan a short time before returning to Czechoslovakia after a visit to Cuba. Indra was accompanied by Flavio Bravo, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government.

Indra said that it is precisely at this time, when the international situation is very tense and Cuba is exposed to strong international pressure and to the aggressive Reagan administration, that we have come to express our solidarity and friendship with the Cuban people, the Communist Party of Cuba and with the country's government.

The visitor said that during his stay in Cuba he visited the Province of Cienfuegos and the Isle of Youth, and that his delegation discussed the present international situation with Cuban authorities.

[Begin Indra recording with simultaneous translation] In all these discussions we confirmed the coincidence of our opinions on all matters of international policy. Both sides valued the existing political and economic contacts between Czechoslovakia and Cuba. [end recording] Indra said that agreements made during the talks include a loan to our country.

Indra's visit is a gesture of solidarity with the Cuban revolution and has helped to further strengthen the bilateral relations between our countries.

Departs for Nicaragua

FL052200 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1913 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Alois Indra, chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly, who paid a visit to our country during the last few days, has departed for Nicaragua and later will travel to Mexico. During talks with the press, he said he would travel to Nicaragua at the invitation of Carlos Nunez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council. He stressed the Czechoslovak Government's and people's support for the Sandinist revolution.

Afterwards, the high-level CSSR delegation will travel to Mexico with whom, Alois Indra said, the CSSR has many points of agreement in foreign policy.

Alois Indra also referred to the development of the Czechoslovak [socialist] Union of Youth, which is currently holding its congress in which an important Cuban delegation is participating.

PANAMANIAN PEASANT LEADER DECORATED BY ANAP

FL060101 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Excerpt] This morning the ties of friendship between Cuba and Panama were once again strengthened with the award of the Romerico Cordero Medal to (Julio Bermudez), secretary general of Panama's National Confederation of Peasant Settlements [Confederacion Nacional de Asentamientos Campesinos de Panama].

The ceremony, held at the main offices of the National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP], was presided over by Jose Ramirez Cruz, alternate member of the Politburo and ANAP president.

CUBAN, GDR TRADE MINISTERS HOLD TALKS IN BERLIN

FL041935 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1807 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Text] Cuban Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas held talks with his GDR counterpart, it was reported in Berlin today. Cabrizas, who had been in the GDR from 30 September until 3 October, reviewed the progress of the goods trade between the two countries during 1982 with his counterpart.

During the talks, they also dealt with the corresponding prospects for the 1983 trade protocol, which is due to be negotiated soon. Cabrizas and his counterpart expressed their satisfaction with the agreements and the prospects which continue to be opened in trade between Cuba and the GDR, reflecting the level of relations between the parties and governments of the two countries.

BANK, TRADE DELEGATION IN TOKYO FOR TALKS

FL041915 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1803 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Text] Raul Leon Torras, minister-president of the National Bank of Cuba, arrived in Tokyo today on a working visit which will end on 16 October. The Cuban minister's objectives include meetings with responsible officials of financial institutions, banks and commercial firms. He will also participate in ceremonies marking the 100th anniversary of the Bank of Japan.

Leon Torras has arranged meetings with the presidents of 23 banks, among them the Japanese Import-Export Bank, International Trade and Industry Minister Shintaro Abe, and Deputy Minister of Finance Kiichi Watanabe. [as heard]

Meetings will also be held with President (Yoiichi Kawai) and Vice President (Yusuru Abe), both of the Japan-Cuba economic conference, while Amadeo Blanco, vice minister of foreign trade, will hold parallel meetings with executives of Japanese commercial firms.

RISQUET ARRIVES IN ETHIOPIA ON OFFICIAL VISIT

FL041442 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1254 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Text] Jorge Risquet, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba, today arrived in Addis Ababa at the head of a party and state mission on an official and friendly visit. Risquet and his retinue were received at the international airport by Berhanu Baye, member of the Executive Committee of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia and the Provisional Military Administrative Council; Felleke Gedle-Giorgis, foreign minister and member of the Central Committee; (Seude Teclu), mayor of Addis Ababa; and other high-ranking government officials.

During his 1-week visit, Risquet and his retinue will exchange views with Ethiopian officials on bilateral relations and cooperation.

Talks Open

FL051506 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1424 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Official talks between the Cuban party and state delegation headed by Jorge Risquet, member of Cuba's Communist Party Politburo, and his Ethiopian counterpart began today in Addis Ababa. The Ethiopian delegation is headed by Berhanu Baye, member of the Executive Committee of the Commission for Organizing Ethiopia's Workers Party and of the Provisional Military Administrative Council.

The negotiations, which are being held in an atmosphere of true friendship, deal with the bilateral relations between Socialist Ethiopia and Cuba. High officials of the Ethiopian party and government are participating in the talks as well as the Cuban ambassador to that country. Today they met at the headquarters of the National Campaign for Revolutionary Development and of the Supreme Central Planning Council.

The secretary general of the National Campaign for Revolutionary Development and of the Supreme Central Planning Council, Hailu Yimenu, explained the activities carried out to move the Ethiopian economy forward. Hailu said that the results achieved in formulating short-term objectives and making the development program a reality have been the most important thing that has happened since the creation of the National Economy Campaign and the Supreme Central Planning Council. He noted that the development program for the next 10 years is currently being prepared in accordance with the orders of the Revolutionary Government.

Jorge Risquet and the members of the Cuban delegation learned about Ethiopia's efforts aimed at developing energy and mining resources and training workers together with other sectors of the economy.

AMBASSADOR MEETS WITH ANGOLAN PRESIDENT

FL051704 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Luanda -- Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, has received Cuban Ambassador Rafael Francia Mestre in a private audience. The meeting of the Angolan president with the Cuban ambassador took place at the People's Palace.

INDIAN BUSINESS GROUP SEEKS TRADE TIES

FL041750 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Text] An Indian commercial delegation headed by Mr (Durga Prachat Mandelia), president of the (Birla) management group, is visiting Cuba at the invitation of the foreign trade minister and has paid a courtesy visit to the headquarters of the Chamber of Commerce, where it was received by Jose M. Diaz, secretary general of the Executive Board, and by other Chamber of Commerce officials.

During the meeting, which was held in a fraternal climate, the (Birla) group, one the largest private Indian commerical corporations, explained the characteristics of the group and its principal fields and economic objectives. The Cuban counterpart supplied detailed information on the functions of the Chamber of Commerce among other aspects of interest related to this activity.

The object of Mr (Mandelia's) visit is to analyze the possibilities of holding joint negotiations in several branches of the economy, which will help to establish closer trade relations between Cuba and this important commercial enterprise.

SMALL FARMERS' COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT PRAISED

FL041343 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Text] Jose Ramirez Cruz, alternate Politburo member and president of the National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP], has said that the cooperative movement in the country is progressing well but that the important thing is not to grow only in size and membership, but in consolidating the organized cooperatives as well. Ramirez Cruz was speaking at the second national ANAP plenum.

The leader said that 1,402 cooperatives had been organized through September with an overall area of 47,357 caballerias of land and 57,213 members. This means that the movement has continued its progress by always respecting the inviolable principle of the desire of the peasants he said. At the present time, almost half of the small farmers' land, 41.5 percent, is organized in one of the two higher forms of agricultural production.

The ANAP leader said that another positive aspect of this gradual process of socialist collectivization is that these collective peasant enterprises have continued to grow in area and that the average cooperative is now 33.2 caballerias in area and has 40 members.

BRIEFS

ASSISTANCE WORKERS IN ANGOLA -- The group of Cuban builders working in the Angolan Province of Benguela has overfulfilled its work program for three consecutive quarters. For this reason, it has been granted the banner for the best unit. (Enrique Soto), secretary of the Cuban Communist Party organization in Angola, spoke during the ceremony and said that Cuban internationalists are prepared to go on giving their militant assistance to Angola for as long as necessary. [Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Sep 82 PA]

SURINAME DELEGATION -- Jose Ramon Fernandez, member of the Central Committee and minister of education, has held a meeting with a delegation from Suriname's Ministry of Education and Science which is visiting Havana. [Text] [Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1442 GMT 28 Sep 82 FL]

BARBADOS

GOVERNMENT CUTS OFF GUYANA'S CARICOM CREDIT

FL021445 Bridgetown ADVOCATE NEWS in English 29 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] The already bankrupt economy of Guyana has become the latest casualty of Barbados' battle to stabilise its worsening balance of payments situation. From Friday, Barbados will no longer help Guyana meet debts owed through the Caricom Multilateral Clearing Facility [CMCF].

The decision, announced to regional journalists by Barbados Central Bank Governor Dr. Courtney Blackman at his Bridgetown office on Monday, was passed on to other Caricom governments last week. The journalists are attending a seminar here in Barbados.

Dr. Blackman said the Barbados Government took the stand following two successive failures by the Guyana Government to settle a $42 million credit accumulated under the facility. Under the CMCF, which was introduced in 1977, members can chalk up bills for goods bought intra-regionally half of which must be settled every six months. "On both occasions, January 15 and June 15, Guyana failed to settle," said Dr. Blackman. The Barbados Government is now insisting said Dr. Blackman that "Guyanese purchases of goods from other countries cannot go through CMCF. They must be done bilaterally."

The move if adopted by other Caricom members can cripple the operations of the Guyana Government and is a potential threat to the nationalist policies of the Forbes Burnham government. Said one senior Barbados Central Bank official: "If further credit is not granted to Guyana, she will not be able to fund any new transactions. Perhaps the only way in which Guyana can raise new cash is to sell some of the shares in companies it has nationalised."

The Central Bank's deputy director of research, Winston Cox blamed the clearing facility for leaving the Barbados economy strapped for much-needed foreign exchange: "A lot of foreign exchange is tied up in balances in the Caricom Multilateral Clearing Facility, this has its problems."

Among those problems for Barbados has been a steady steepening of its deficits, which for the fiscal year ending this month, Cox put the deficit at over BDs$100 million (BDs$1 equals 50 cents US). Cox said chief offenders in creating this disparity between export earnings and import expenditure, had been the failed 1982 sugar crop -- that brought in only 85,000 tons of sugar -- the worst crop since 1948, and a decline in tourism, another traditional mainstay of the Barbadian economy.

DOMINICA

NEW CHRONICLE ACCUSES CUBA OF MEDDLING AGAIN

FL021635 Bridgetown CANA in English 1529 GMT 2 Oct 82

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Oct 2. CANA -- The weekly NEW CHRONICLE newspaper here today reported that Cuba has again tried to meddle in Dominica's internal affairs through the offer of scholarships to Dominican nationals to study in Havana -- against the government's wishes. In a front-page story, the newspaper said it had been reliably informed that two more scholarships had been given to Dominicans in medicine and economics, despite government's decision not to accept scholarships from that Caribbean communist state.

Last year, the Dominica Parliament endorsed a resolution condemning Cuba for granting scholarships to Dominicans through the leftist Dominica Liberation Movement Alliance [DMLA), even after they had been rejected by the government. The government's decision was taken on the grounds that the students were being taught military arts and Marxism in addition to academic subjects.

"People in Dominica need to know why the Cuban Government insists on making scholarships available to Dominicans even after they have been officially rejected by the Dominica Government, whom the people mandated to handle their internal affairs as well as external affairs," the newspaper said.

The NEW CHRONICLE added: "For Cuba to contine to use its discredited communist-inspired agents in Dominica to brainwash a free people is tantamount to organised subversion of the sovereignty of an independent country." "The Cubans have no right to deal with persons outside of the government and neither would (Cuban President Fidel) Castro countenance the thought of the Dominica Government dealing with anti-Castro groups in Cuba," the newspaper said in its story, headlined: "Cuba Meddles Again."

It noted that only this week, St Lucia's prime minister, John Compton, denounced Cuban interference in his country's and other Caribbean countries affairs. The CHRONICLE added: "The Dominica Government needs to regard this latest act of provocation as an attack on its sovereignty and must appeal to international bodies for redress."

According to reliable sources here, Cuba had offered six scholarships this year to Dominicans, but only four of them had been accepted, with the other students refusing them at the last moment.

GRENADA

PRG RESPONDS TO COMPTON'S 'UNWARRANTED ATTACK'

FL021910 Bridgetown CANA in English 1902 GMT 2 Oct 82

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Oct 2, CANA -- The People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada (PRG) has issued a statement reiterating its "unwavering commitment to regional unity" and its "firm commitment to Caricom" -- the 12-nation Caribbean community.

The statement was in response to what it described as a "blatant and unwarranted attack on the PRG and on the Grenada revolution" by St Lucia's Prime Minister John Compton.

It said: "The section of Mr Compton's statements which causes most concern is his position that Grenada does not seem to be interested in regional integration and regional unity." Mr Compton in an interview with a United States magazine, had expressed concern over reports that there was to be an exchange of information between Grenada and Communist Cuba at the foreign ministers level. And, he had said: "Well, if Grenada is within our organization (Caricom) where we try to harmonise our foreign policy, it means that there is an opportunity for division and suspicion between ourselves and the Grenada Government. I wouldn't say the Grenada Government should choose between ourselves and Cuba, but the Grenada Government should realize that they are part of the Caribbean community, and their first obligation is to the Caribbean."

The PRG statement said Compton's accusation is contradicted by reality since, as a matter of policy, PRG members seek, whenever possible to make representation on behalf of all Caribbean community small island states and, since 1979, Grenada has demonstrated this commitment not only to Caricom small island states, but also to disadvantaged states world wide.

The most recent manifestation of this commitment, the statement said, was the official visit of prime minister, Maurice Bishop, to France when the decision was taken to include seven eastern Caribbean states, including St Lucia, in its grant programme of 386 million E.C. dollars (one EC dollar, 37 cents U.S.). The statement said that this historic decision meant that for the first time, member states of Caricom will have the opportunity of sharing in French grant assistance on an ongoing basis.

"The PRG feels that such unthinking statements are particularly regrettable at this time when Caricom states should be getting closer to discuss and formulate positions on the several real issues affecting them: unemployment, illiteracy, effects of the world economic crisis etc." It added that Compton should also recall the Grenada had been one of the leading voices calling for an early convening of the Caricom heads of government conference.

JAMAICA

PNP VICE PRESIDENT RESIGNS; INFIGHTING CONTINUES

FL042022 Bridgetown CANA in English 1750 GMT 4 Oct 82

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 4, CANA -- Opposition People's National Party (PNP) vice-president, Anthony Spaulding, resigned from his post at the weekend, signalling that internal wranglings of various kinds are still raging within the ranks of the Socialist Party, PNP officials have said. Mr Spaulding's resignation, read out at a special delegates conference on Saturday, came only two weeks after he had been reelected as one of the four vice-presidents at the PNP's 44th annual conference.

The weekend delegate's conference was to deal with unfinished business, particularly financing, planning and political education. But with Mr Spaulding's resignation, the delegates yesterday elected former PNP parliamentarian, O.D. Ramtallie to replace him. Mr Ramtallie is the PNP "caretaker" for a constituency in the south central parish of Clarendon.

The reasons for Mr Spaulding's resignation were not made public, but PNP sources say that there have been differences between the former housing minister, and PNP leader Michael Manley. Although Mr Spaulding has been identified with the party's leftwing, he has carried a strong anti-communist line.

Early last year there had also been reports that Mr Spaulding, a lawyer who holds an urban working class constituency, including several ghetto areas, had resigned but was persuaded to withdraw the letter.

Mr Manley has so far not commented on the resignation, but might do so tonight after a meeting between himself and his deputies, party sources said.

The other PNP vice-presidents are Portia Simpson, Winston Jones and Seymour Mullings.

At last month's party conference, former foreign minister and deputy prime minister, Percival Patterson, who is regarded as the leader of the PNP's right wing, did not seek re-election as vice president. The move was regarded by some political observers here as an effort to pressure the party to remove leftwingers from key positions, foremost being General Secretary Dr D.K. Duncan.

However at the final public session, Mr Manley pointedly praised the work of the general secretary, while Dr Duncan himself declared that the delegates had endorsed the performance of the party's secretariat under his leadership.

Both Dr Duncan and Mr Manley spoke of the need for the party to finance itself since traditional sources of finances had dried up because of its policy of democratic socialism. But the Jamaica DAILY NEWS today said that Dr Duncan had expressed a desire to step-down because the party's top leadership was divided over his continuing as general secretary.

The general secretary is elected by the National Executive Committee, a body of about 200 constituency representatives, and that is expected to meet in about a fortnight.

CHILE

MIR LEADER ALLENDE SEES CRISIS FAVORING STRUGGLE

PA032140 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Oct 82

[Text] Pascal Allende, secretary general of Chile's Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR], has warned that the socioeconomic crisis that his country is facing is the worst since the 1930's. At a news conference in Berlin, the GDR capital, Allende said that the worsening of this crisis has laid groundwork favorable to widespread popular resistance against the regime of Gen Augusto Pinochet. Regarding this, Allende said that he advocates the most diverse forms of struggle and the strengthening of the unity of antigovernment forces.

He also criticized the role of U.S. auxiliary gendarme being played by the Chilean tyranny against the progressive governments and the national liberation movements of Central America. In addition, it was reported that Chile's industrial production has dropped by 17.3 percent during the first few months of 1982 while sales dropped by 13.8 percent.

COLOMBIA

POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PA051834 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1743 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Bogota, 5 Oct (LATIN-REUTER) -- Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski today began an official 3-day visit to Colombia as part of a process of economic and diplomatic rapprochement between the two countries. The diplomat, who arrived in Bogota last night, told this agency that he would talk with President Belisario Betancur and high-ranking Colombian authorities to decide on specific projects for economic exchanges and technological assistance.

Olszowski has scheduled a series of meetings with officials of the government's economic team and the federation of coffee growers. The Polish official did not rule out the possibility of signing a joint document with Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo, his Colombian counterpart.

SURINAME

BOUTERSE SECURES ARMS PROMISE FROM BRAZIL

PM051533 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 29 Sep 82 p 1

[ANP report: "Brazil Will Supply Arms to Suriname"]

[Text] Paramaribo/The Hague, 29 Sep -- Brazil is prepared to supply arms to Suriname, Surinamese Army leader Desi Bouterse has said. Bouterse made the announcement in Paramaribo after a 5-day official visit to Brazil.

As yet no decisions have been made about the type or quantity of arms. In November, a Surinamese-Brazilian commission will begin talks on the subject. Such commissions have been in existence since the Arron government was forced to flee the field in 1980 after a coup. These commissions were supposed to concern themselves with the economy and financial questions, but they were not active. Through his visit to Brazil, Bouterse wanted to breathe some new life into relations with Suriname's large neighbor and to reactivate the commission.

During an official visit by Bouterse in July, Venezuela also declared its willingness to supply military material to Suriname. Venezuela has also promised to support Suriname's fishing industry and to buy bauxite from Suriname.